

# DIGITALES ARCHIV

ZBW – Leibniz-Informationszentrum Wirtschaft  
*ZBW – Leibniz Information Centre for Economics*

## Periodical Part

### Europe sustainable development report. 4th edition (2022)

Europe sustainable development report

#### Provided in Cooperation with:

ZBW OAS

*Reference:* In: Europe sustainable development report Europe sustainable development report. 4th edition (2022) (2022).

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/sustainabledevelopment.report/2022/europe-sustainable-development-report-2022.pdf>.

This Version is available at:

<http://hdl.handle.net/11159/652904>

#### Kontakt/Contact

ZBW – Leibniz-Informationszentrum Wirtschaft/Leibniz Information Centre for Economics  
Düsternbrooker Weg 120  
24105 Kiel (Germany)  
E-Mail: [rights\[at\]zbw.eu](mailto:rights[at]zbw.eu)  
<https://www.zbw.eu/>

#### Standard-Nutzungsbedingungen:

Dieses Dokument darf zu eigenen wissenschaftlichen Zwecken und zum Privatgebrauch gespeichert und kopiert werden. Sie dürfen dieses Dokument nicht für öffentliche oder kommerzielle Zwecke vervielfältigen, öffentlich ausstellen, aufführen, vertreiben oder anderweitig nutzen. Sofern für das Dokument eine Open-Content-Lizenz verwendet wurde, so gelten abweichend von diesen Nutzungsbedingungen die in der Lizenz gewährten Nutzungsrechte. Alle auf diesem Vorblatt angegebenen Informationen einschließlich der Rechteinformationen (z.B. Nennung einer Creative Commons Lizenz) wurden automatisch generiert und müssen durch Nutzer:innen vor einer Nachnutzung sorgfältig überprüft werden. Die Lizenzangaben stammen aus Publikationsmetadaten und können Fehler oder Ungenauigkeiten enthalten.

#### Terms of use:

*This document may be saved and copied for your personal and scholarly purposes. You are not to copy it for public or commercial purposes, to exhibit the document in public, to perform, distribute or otherwise use the document in public. If the document is made available under a Creative Commons Licence you may exercise further usage rights as specified in the licence. All information provided on this publication cover sheet, including copyright details (e.g. indication of a Creative Commons license), was automatically generated and must be carefully reviewed by users prior to reuse. The license information is derived from publication metadata and may contain errors or inaccuracies.*



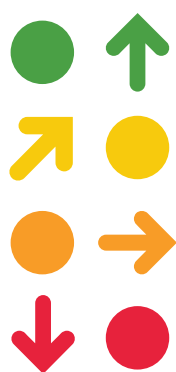
<https://savearchive.zbw.eu/terms-of-use>

**ZBW**

Leibniz-Informationszentrum Wirtschaft  
Leibniz Information Centre for Economics

Mitglied der

*Leibniz*  
Leibniz-Gemeinschaft



# EUROPE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2022

Achieving the SDGs: Europe's Compass in a Multipolar World

*Includes the SDG Index for the European Union, its member states, and partner countries*





December 2022

© Sustainable Development Solutions Network

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY 4.0) International License. The views expressed in this report do not reflect the views of any organisations, agencies or programmes of the United Nations or the European Union. Additionally, they may not reflect the opinions of SDSN's Leadership Council members and their host institutions.

Design and layout by Pica Publishing Ltd. [www.pica-publishing.com](http://www.pica-publishing.com)



# EUROPE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2022

Achieving the SDGs: Europe's Compass in  
a Multipolar World

*Special Edition in support of the EU Voluntary  
Review and 2023 SDG Summit*



# Acknowledgements

The *Europe Sustainable Development Report 2022* (4th edition) was prepared by a team of independent researchers at the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) in collaboration with SDSN Europe. It builds on the methodology of the annual Sustainable Development Report, including the SDG Index and Dashboards, issued by the SDSN and Bertelsmann Stiftung since 2016. The findings and recommendations were developed from extensive consultations and meetings with experts and stakeholders which took place between June and November 2022. In addition to the revised and updated SDG Index for Europe, this year we also present 10 contributions from scientists and practitioners on ways to strengthen the EU's SDG leadership at home and internationally.

The report was coordinated by Guillaume Lafortune, SDSN's Vice President and Head of Paris Office and drafted by Grayson Fuller (SDSN), Leslie Bermont Diaz (SDSN), Adolf Klope-Lesch (SDSN Europe) and Guillaume Lafortune. Data and statistical work was led by Grayson Fuller, Leslie Bermont Diaz and Guillaume Lafortune. We thank María Cortés-Puch (SDSN), Andrija Erac (SDSN), and Samory Toure (SDSN) and Maëlle Voil (SDSN), Ruben Andino (SDSN) and Sara Kasim (SDSN) for their support at various stages. Max Gruber (SDSN) prepared the web data platform. We are also grateful for the guidance and support of Prof. Jeffrey D. Sachs (SDSN and Columbia University). We thank all the practitioners, experts and scientists who contributed to this year's report, including Aziza Akhmouch (OECD), Damien Barchiche (IDDRI), Simone Cresti (SDSN Europe), Ellen R. Dixon (SDSN Youth), Elise Dufief (IDDRI), Anna-Katharina Hornidge (SDSN Germany and IDOS), Brighton Kaoma (SDSN Youth), Phoebe Koundouri (SDSN Europe, Technical University of Denmark), Stefano Marta (OECD), Antoine Oger (IEEP), Angelo Riccaboni (SDSN Europe, University of Siena), Marc Ringel (Sciences Po), Peter Schmidt (EESC) and Lisa Tostado (Heinrich Böll Stiftung European Union).

The report benefited from the support and active participation of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and its member organisations. In particular, we would like to thank Peter Schmidt, Judit Carreras Garcia and Monica Guarinoni at the EESC. For their inputs and support we also thank the Heinrich Böll Stiftung European Union, and in particular Lisa Tostado, and Thomas Friang (Open Diplomacy). For their comments we thank Niels Keijzer and Svea Koch (IDOS) and Jan Mareš (Ministry of the Environment, Czechia).

The report benefited from numerous comments and inputs received during the workshop hosted by the EESC and SDSN on 3 November 2022 in Brussels and during the online public consultation period in October/November 2022. We thank all the participants, speakers and contributors.

The views expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect those of any organisations, agencies or programmes of the United Nations or the European Union. They may also not reflect the opinions of SDSN's Leadership Council members and their host institutions.

Pica Publishing provided design and editorial services and prepared the manuscript for publication.

Recommended citation:

Lafortune, G., Fuller, G., Bermont Diaz, L., Klope-Lesch, A., Koundouri, P., Riccaboni, A. (2022). Achieving the SDGs: Europe's Compass in a Multipolar World. *Europe Sustainable Development Report 2022*. SDSN and SDSN Europe. France: Paris.



# Contents

Acknowledgements	ii
Summary of key findings and recommendations	v
Acronyms and abbreviations	xvii
<b>Part 1. Performance of European Countries Against the SDGs</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1. The SDG Index score over time	1
1.2. The 2022 SDG index ranking and dashboards for Europe	5
1.3. Leave no one behind and convergence process in Europe	6
1.4 International spillovers from European countries	13
<b>Part 2. Priorities to Restore and Accelerate SDG Progress in Europe and Globally</b>	<b>19</b>
2.1 Internal Priorities: Six SDG Transformations	20
2.2 Green Deal/SDG Diplomacy	28
2.3 International spillovers and policy coherence	30
<b>Part 3. Ten ideas to strengthen the EU's Sustainable Development Goals leadership (Experts' Contributions)</b>	<b>35</b>
Whatever it takes: Establish the global common good as Europe's strategic compass in a multipolar world	35
Financing sustainable development in the Global South	40
<b>Transformation 1.</b> Education for sustainable development and innovation in Europe	45
<b>Transformation 2.</b> The Green Deal as answer to Europe's energy crisis	49
<b>Transformation 3.</b> Unlocking housing and mobility for sustainable cities and communities	53
<b>Transformation 4.</b> Aligning the European food sector to Agenda 2030: priorities, measurements and tools for supporting SMEs	58
<b>Transformation 5.</b> It all starts with a target: The case for measurable targets on the EU's material footprint	62
<b>Transformation 6.</b> Digitalization for a just transition: enhancing EU policy coherence to address the impacts of the digital transition	67
Making it count: measuring the economic value of the European natural capital	73
Fostering youth network cooperation in Europe and abroad for sustainable development	80
<b>Annex 1. Methodology</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Country Profiles</b>	<b>106</b>

## Figures

<b>Figure 1.1</b>   The SDG Index Score over time of the European Union (2015–2021)	2
<b>Figure 1.2</b>   Status of SDG targets by Europe sub-region (% trend indicators)	3
<b>Figure 1.3</b>   SDG Index Scores, EU27 and European regions, 2005-2021	3
<b>Figure 1.4</b>   SDG indicators particularly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, EU27	4
<b>Figure 1.5</b>   Sustainability of Diets: Human Trophic Level, 1960-2019	6
<b>Figure 1.6</b>   The 2022 SDG Index Scores and Rankings by country and subregions	7
<b>Figure 1.7</b>   The 2022 SDG Dashboards by country and sub-regions	8
<b>Figure 1.8</b>   Leave no one behind index score for Europe	10
<b>Figure 1.9</b>   EU27 progress on LNOB Index by dimension in p.p., 2019-2021	11
<b>Figure 1.10</b>   SDG Index and Dashboards: global, regional and subnational editions (2016–2022)	12
<b>Figure 1.11</b>   Progress on SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) goal scores by European subregion (2010-2021)	13
<b>Figure 1.12</b>   SDG Index scores versus International Spillover Index scores (global edition)	15
<b>Figure 1.13</b>   Consumption-based versus Production-based greenhouse gases emissions in mineral supply chains	16
<b>Figure 1.14</b>   Consumption-based versus Production-based number of accidents at work in mineral supply chains	16
<b>Figure 2.1</b>   Overview of net zero targets by country and target year	19
<b>Figure 2.2</b>   Progress towards renewable energy source targets for EU-27	24
<b>Figure 2.3</b>   Progress towards renewable energy source targets, by country	24
<b>Figure 3.1</b>   Bilateral ODA from EU Institutions, by sector (2020)	41
<b>Figure 3.2</b>   Are you using the SDGs as a framework for the COVID-19 recovery phase?	55
<b>Figure 3.3</b>   Which policies and actions can most contribute to sustainable mobility and accessibility and thus achieve SDG 11 in your city or region?	56
<b>Figure 3.4</b>   The relationship between different types of capital	73
<b>Figure 3.5</b>   A 2-stage approach for the Valuation of Ecosystems	74
<b>Figure 3.6</b>   Cross-sectional correlation coefficients between EU-27 MWTP estimates and SDG Index Scores and the Scores for all the 17 underlying goals for all ecosystems and the three ecosystem services categories, respectively	75
<b>Table A1</b>   Main data gaps in tracking the SDGs in the EU	85
<b>Table A2</b>   Groupings of European countries by subregion	88
<b>Table A3</b>   Spillover indicators and categories	89
<b>Table A4</b>   The 'leave no one behind' Index: indicators and categories	90
<b>Table A5</b>   Indicators included in the Europe Sustainable Development Report 2022	91
<b>Table A6</b>   Indicators used for SDG Trends and period for trend estimation	99
<b>Table A7</b>   Indicator thresholds and justifications for the optimum values	102

---

## Summary of key findings and recommendations

In September 2015, the international community adopted the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In doing so, all 193 UN member states signed off on 17 goals to promote socioeconomic prosperity and environmental sustainability. Earlier that same year, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda for financing development had been adopted, while the close of the year saw the conclusion of the Paris Climate Agreement. Yet seven years on, the world is significantly off-track to achieving most of these goals, and multiple crises have led to a reversal of SDG progress. From the outset, Heads of State agreed that a number of countries each year (around 40) should present reports on their progress towards the SDGs, in so called 'voluntary national reviews' (VNRs) and that leaders would meet every four years to review global SDG progress and agree on a path forward. In July 2023, the EU is to present its first Union-wide voluntary review at the United Nations. This presents a good opportunity for the EU to send a strong message to the international community and to demonstrate its commitment to and leadership on the SDGs. A few months later, in September 2023, Heads of State will again meet under the auspices of the UN General Assembly in New York for the second SDG Summit (the first was held in 2019). Following the SDG Summit, the Summit of the Future, in September 2024, will debate and hopefully lead to the adoption of a Pact for the Future to include major reforms of multilateral institutions and sustainable development finance. This year's Europe Sustainable Development Report (ESDR 2022) aims to support both of these processes and contribute to strengthening the EU's SDG leadership at home and internationally.

### The SDGs and Europe in a world of multiple crises

**In the midst of multiple health, security, climate and financial crises, the SDGs remain the future Europe and the world want.** These crises represent major setbacks for the SDGs and human development globally. Already before the pandemic, progress towards the SDGs was too slow and uneven, both worldwide and in Europe. Since 2020 it has stalled. The global ramifications of the war on Ukraine are very likely to even undo progress achieved so far. Yet, in a context of increased geopolitical rivalries and fragmented multilateralism, the SDGs remain the *only* comprehensive and universal vision for socioeconomic prosperity and environmental sustainability adopted by all UN member states. Failures to implement the bedrock SDG principles of social inclusion, clean energy, responsible consumption and universal access to public services will lead to more crises. In a multipolar world, the EU should use the SDGs more than ever as a compass internally and in its worldwide dialogue and cooperation until 2030 and beyond. The 2023 United Nations' Heads of State Summit on the SDGs presents an opportunity for the EU to renew its strong commitment to the SDGs. At the mid-point in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, it is now the time for the EU to rise to the occasion and invest 'whatever it takes' – diplomatically, financially, and by means of cooperation and coherence – in the global common good, epitomized and documented in the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

**The world needs an equitably shared fiscal space for investing in the SDGs.** Meeting the SDGs is largely an investment agenda into human capital (including health, education and social protection) and physical infrastructure (such as clean energy or digital technologies). Globally, \$17 trillion USD was mobilized for the COVID-19 recovery, mainly in rich countries, yet it remains an open question as to what extent recovery funds supported SDG transformations, including the green and digital transitions. The EU's own COVID-19 recovery funds face the same coherence challenge, as does its response to the energy challenges linked to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Poor countries lack appropriate fiscal space to respond to crises and invest in sustainable development, due to their inability to access markets at acceptable terms. Inequitable access to COVID-19 vaccines and spillovers from the global North's geopolitical and economic policies negatively affect humanitarian, social and hunger crises in the poorer countries of the global South. Furthermore, these countries are often the victims of the most severe impacts of climate change: though they bear very limited historical responsibility for climate change, they often need to spend a significant portion of their wealth to adapt and respond to climate-related shocks. Promoting policy coherence for sustainable development is key to demonstrating and furthering the EU's credibility on the 2030 Agenda.

**The EU should lead international efforts to implement the 'SDG Stimulus', promote climate justice, and live up to the commitments of SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals).** Building on the G20 Bali Leaders' Declaration and the agreement reached at COP 27, the EU and the G20 must work together to support the UN Secretary-General's call for an 'SDG Stimulus' to accelerate SDG progress up to and beyond 2030 and to finance a large share of the costs of adaptation and climate-change loss and damage in developing countries. It is not the time to scale back ambitions on international solidarity, including targets on official development assistance. The cost of future conflicts, humanitarian crises and population displacement and refugee crises will exceed by far financial transfers made now for the SDGs. This year's SDG Index shows that only two EU member states have achieved SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals) and some are moving backwards on concessional financing. Besides a massive scale-up in SDG financing, the EU should push for a major reform of global governance and international institutions including the United Nations, the World Bank and the IMF. This would contribute to the run-up to the Summit of the Future in September 2024 (and the preparatory ministerial meeting in September 2023) which should lead to the adoption of a Pact for the Future and to significant reforms of how the world is run. If confirmed, the Paris Conference on climate financing, organized under the auspices of the President Macron of France in cooperation with the Prime Minister of Barbados and tentatively scheduled for June 2023, may provide strong impetus for a new financial pact for sustainable development. By taking bold actions to strengthen international SDG financing, climate justice and the UN system, the EU can rally other countries to its values centred on human dignity, freedom, democracy and the rule of law.

**Diplomacy, peace, and global cooperation are fundamental preconditions for making any progress on sustainable development.** Geopolitical rivalries between superpowers and military conflicts in Europe, as well as in Africa and the Middle East, have had huge direct humanitarian costs. The war inflicted on Ukraine has caused tremendous indirect effects on the SDGs globally, including triggering food and energy price hikes and debt crises. Military conflicts and geopolitical tensions are also major distractions from the adoption of bold policy and financing commitments for the SDGs in Europe and globally, even though history shows that the international community has successfully used critical junctures to promote lasting change. The ground-breaking Brundtland report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, *Our Common Future* (1987) and the ensuing Rio de Janeiro 'Earth Summit' in 1992 (the first UN Conference on Environment and Development) benefitted from the years of Soviet Union *Perestroika* and the end of the Cold War. Similarly, the first

---

UN Conference on Human Development, held in Stockholm in 1972, which gave birth to international environmental governance and the UN Environment Programme, was achieved during the Cold War détente — *not* ten years earlier amidst the Cuban Missile Crisis.

**The EU should ensure a proactive and SDG-oriented foreign and security policy.** The EU should avoid the trap of aligning all its external policies with the threats-oriented approach of its new Strategic Compass for Security and Defense, adopted in 2022, which makes no reference to the universal sustainable development agenda and fails to provide an adequate concept of partnership. In a multipolar world, peace cannot be assured solely through *'defense against'* thinking, it also needs a *'cooperation for'* approach: *for* a peaceful, sustainable future. The non-extension of military conflicts globally, a negotiated peace process between Russia and Ukraine (as called for by UN General Assembly Resolutions ES-11/1. and ES-11/4.), and global cooperation between the EU and other major powers are fundamental conditions for successful SDG and climate negotiations, and for strengthening the UN and the rules-based international system. The EU should also be vocal and rally support in the coming years around the importance of pursuing goal-based global development beyond 2030.

**The EU must develop and lead multilateral SDG and Green Deal diplomacy through multiple alliances and coalitions.** The EU played a leading role in the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Climate Agreement, and in 2019 it became the first regional organization to adopt a bold commitment to achieving net zero emissions domestically by 2050. Today, 128 countries have some form of net-zero target. The EU has the capacity to steer and influence others, yet it still falls short of its potential. Unfortunately, the EU did not bring significant international initiatives to COP 27 regarding key issues such as climate finance, loss and damage, and adaptation. However, EU leadership and diplomacy remains critical to advancing key multilateral processes towards achieving the SDGs, including at the Heads of State SDG Summit in September 2023. Up to now, the EU has not had a strategic Green Deal or SDG diplomacy. Yet, successful, global alliances for the SDGs cannot be forged solely from within the EU and the G7. Instead, the EU and its member states should work together to strengthen and reform more diverse and universal formats like the G20 and the UN. As members of both the G20 and the G7, the EU, France, Germany, and Italy should form a dedicated 'Team Europe for the SDGs' to work closely with the incoming presidencies of both groups to get the SDG agenda back on track (2023, G20 India and G7 Japan; 2024, G20 Brazil and G7 Italy; 2025, G20 South Africa and G7 Canada). The G20 Summit commitments made in Bali, Indonesia in November 2022 to achieve and finance the SDGs provide a good starting point for concrete and jointly designed next steps.

**The EU should strengthen its cooperation on the SDGs with large emerging economies.** Open dialogue and cooperation with China in areas ranging from the production and distribution of medical supplies and vaccines to infrastructure in Eurasia, as well as trilateral dialogue among the EU, China and Africa will be particularly critical for global SDG progress. For demographic and economic reasons, but also to achieve global climate objectives, strengthening the alliance with India is also of utmost importance, notably by adopting a free-trade agreement in 2023. The same applies to Brazil, with a particular view on saving the Amazon rainforest and ratifying the new EU-MERCOSUR trade agreement. Large infrastructure investment efforts led by the EU (Global Gateway), China (Belt and Road) and the US (Build Back Better World) should work together to support cleaner energy and production systems along with access to digital infrastructure in Africa and around the world. Partnerships between the EU and neighbouring countries, including in the Western Balkans and North Africa, would help advance the energy transition in the EU. The EU should not perceive multipolarity as a threat, but value it as an opportunity.

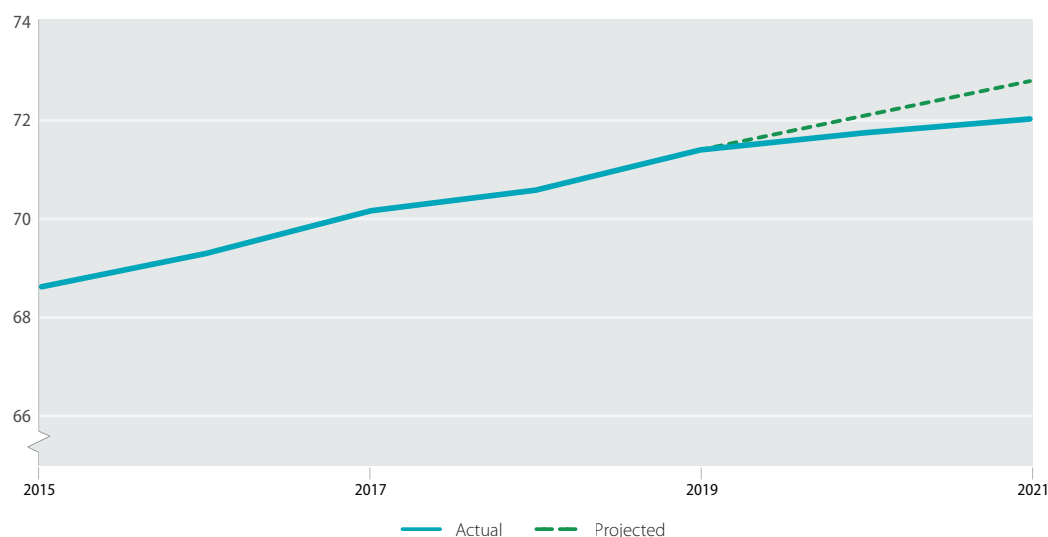


## Transforming the EU to achieve the SDGs

**SDG progress in Europe has stalled since 2020.** The SDG Index provides a measurement of human welfare that by design goes beyond GDP, by including 110 indicators covering social and economic prosperity and environmental sustainability. It also penalizes countries for outsourcing negative social and environmental impacts to the rest of the world through unsustainable supply chains and consumption or profit shifting and tax evasion. This year's SDG Index for Europe shows that the EU has made on average very little progress on the Goals since 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic and other international crises have in fact led to reversals in progress in many European countries, notably on SDG 1 (No poverty), SDG 3 (Good health and well-being) and SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth). The EU has achieved, or is on track to achieve, around 66% of the SDG targets included in the *Europe Sustainable Development Report*, yet progress has been limited on 20% of the indicators and is heading in the wrong direction on 13%. The EU faces its biggest challenges in the areas of responsible consumption and production and sustainable food systems (SDG 2 and SDGs 12–15). There are also important gaps in performance across countries on SDG 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure). Inequalities within countries have increased in several countries over the past two years, as shown by the lack of progress at EU level on many dimensions of the 'leave no one behind' Index presented in this report. Finally, while they top the global SDG Index due to better performance on socioeconomic SDGs, European countries generate significant spillover effects on the rest of the world, notably through unsustainable supply chains. Achievement of SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals) also face significant challenges in Europe, partly because only four EU members have met the target of dedicating 0.7% of their gross national income to official development assistance.

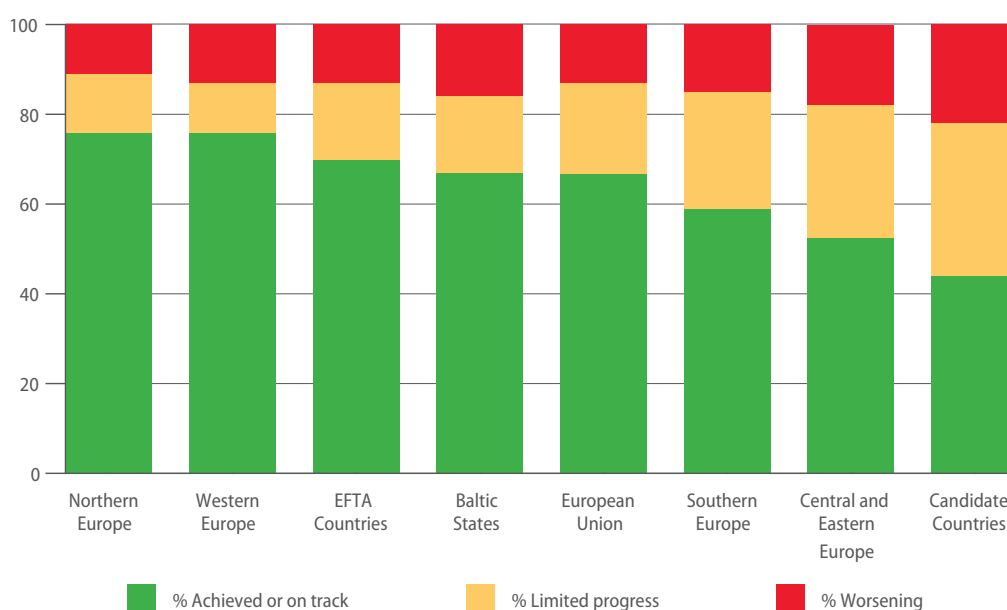
**The EU needs to show the world how it plans to achieve the SDGs and demonstrate this by realizing six key SDG Transformations.** The EU has shown remarkable leadership on the SDGs both before and since their adoption. Yet it still lacks clarity on how it plans to achieve the SDGs. Seven years after their adoption, the EU lacks politically agreed targets for many SDG indicators. Thus, Eurostat in its

## SDG Index Score at EU 27 level (2015-2021)



*Note:* Projected values are based on annual growth rate over the period 2015–2019. From 0 (worst) to 100 (best).  
*Source:* Authors

### Halfway into the SDGs, progress towards targets varies across European countries and goals



*Note:* Percentage of indicators achieved or on track to be achieved by 2030, showing limited progress (insufficient to achieve target by 2030), and heading in the wrong direction. Population-weighted averages for each subregion. Baltic States: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Candidate Countries: Albania, the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Türkiye. Central and Eastern European Europe: Bulgaria, Czechia, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic and Slovenia. Northern Europe: Denmark, Finland and Sweden. Southern Europe: Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal and Spain. Western Europe: Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. EFTA Countries: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. 'European Union' represents the population-weighted average of the 27 EU member states.

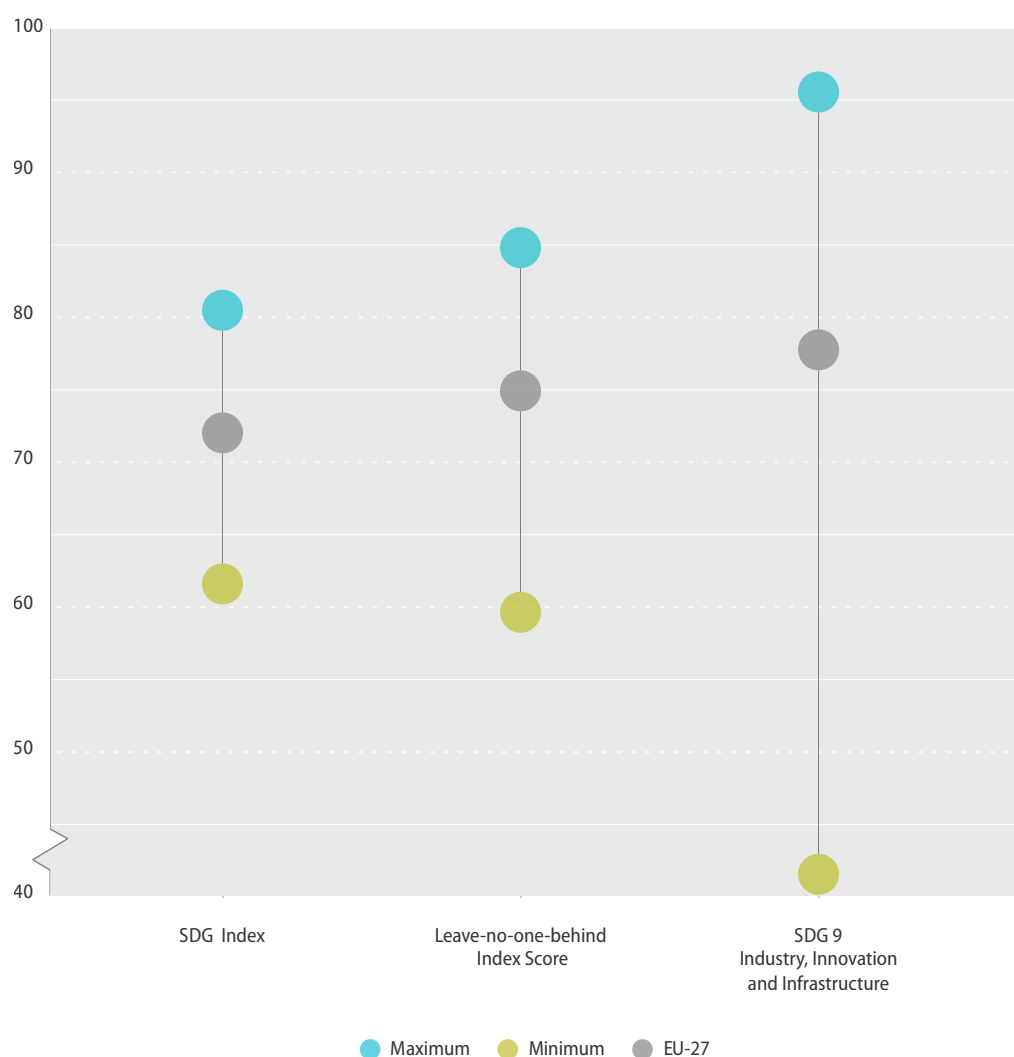
*Source:* Authors

annual SDG report tracks progress towards quantified targets for only 22 of the 101 indicators. It can therefore only present a partial evaluation of whether the EU is on track to achieve major economic, social and environmental transformations. As emphasized by the SDSN, the European Parliament and other organizations, the EU needs to develop an integrated and comprehensive approach to implementing the SDGs and must communicate clearly on them. It can build on the 2020 European Commission staff working document and the conclusions published by the Council of the European Union on 22 June 2021. The SDGs may be the right compass to reduce the complexity of EU policies and instruments for sustainable development and to better engage with citizen and scientists to define pathways at various levels. The concept of key SDG transformations can help provide a more operational narrative and pathway to achieve the SDGs. SDSN and partners have identified Six Transformations that the EU needs to implement in parallel with its efforts to achieve the SDGs. Some of these transformations are well covered in the European Green Deal, others are covered at least partly in other policy documents. Put together and amended, these transformations could form the core of an EU SDG implementation strategy around which policy action can be organized.

**Deep SDG transformations within the EU require broad-based public support. Special attention is needed in Europe to address inequalities within countries and boost education and skills for sustainable development.** Transformations 1 ('education, skills, decent work and innovation'), 3 ('sustainable communities, mobility and housing') and 6 ('digital transformation') focus on access to and quality of key services and infrastructure. The EU is the most equal continent in the world, with among the most advanced social protection and universal health coverage systems. Yet, the LNOB Index shows that multiple crises have impacted particularly vulnerable groups and increased poverty

in some European countries. The return of high inflation in Europe requires special attention to be given to its impact on the poorest and most vulnerable. The LNOB Index also shows persisting gaps in access to and quality of key services within and across countries, notably education and training. According to major international studies, few 15-year-old students can make the distinction between a fact and an opinion. These are problematic challenges in a context where STEM education is key for the twin green and digital transformations. The ability to navigate an information-rich environment is crucial for sustainable development and peace in a post-truth and social-media era. The effective functioning of European democracies and institutions, which are at the heart of the sustainable development transition, depend on the capacity of governments to provide equal opportunities, protect the most vulnerable, and boost education and skills for all.

### Collective EU action for sustainable development must address persisting inequalities within countries and inequalities in innovation capacity across EU member states



*Note:* The LNOB Index (Leave No One Behind Index) measures within countries' inequalities based on 32 indicators. These indicators are clustered in terms of gaps (i) Extreme poverty and material deprivation; (ii) Income inequality and the respect of fundamental labour rights; (iii) Gender inequality; (iv) Access to and quality of services for all. The max and min values correspond to the average scores of the top 3 and bottom 3 EU member states on each Index and scores. From 0 (worst) to 100 (best).  
*Source:* Authors

---

**Boosting innovation capacities, living standards and the convergence process across and within EU member states remains important for collective SDG actions in the EU and to strengthen the EU's industries and competitiveness in world.** SDG 10 (Reduced inequalities) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals) call for reducing inequalities across countries and for increased partnerships. This is generally referred to as 'convergence' in Europe and by EU leadership. Yet the SDG Index for Europe continues to show gaps in performance across European countries and regions, with a notably large spread in performance on SDG 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure). There is widespread recognition that the convergence process across EU regions and between the EU and neighbouring countries has been uneven and too slow over the past two decades, and possibly driven by convergence in capital cities with other regions lagging behind. New approaches to regional and industrial policies combined with the more effective use of major budget tools, including the Cohesion Policy and the Common Agricultural Policy, may help enhance productive capacity throughout Europe. While short-term measures might be needed to strengthen the EU's competitiveness in a context of rising energy prices, in the long run, the EU's capacity to attract key industries and investments largely depends on clean energy, digitization and investments in cutting-edge technologies and skills. The European Skills Agenda, Horizon Europe and the REPowerEU Plan, via ERASMUS + and the Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking all rightly emphasize the importance of skills and training. The European Commission proposal to make 2023 the European Year of Skills is very timely. In its interaction with member states and with neighbouring countries, the EU should not compromise on its core values of solidarity, equality, openness and effective rule-based institutions.

**Multiple crises and EU's responses have clarified the way forward: accelerate implementation of the European Green Deal through a massive scale-up of renewable energy and integrated and digital power grids.** Transformation 2 calls for 'sustainable energy'. The European Green Deal and Climate Law set a clear pathway for decarbonizing the energy system in the EU: cut greenhouse gas emissions by 55% by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. At COP 27 this year, the EU announced it would increase the already ambitious goals of its Nationally Determined Contribution by committing to a 57% reduction in emissions by 2030. The energy crisis is largely due to increased prices and bottlenecks in the supply of fossil fuels. It is therefore crucial, as emphasized in the Commission's REPowerEU Plan, to double down on implementing the European Green Deal by investing in renewable energy (mainly solar, wind, geothermal and hydropower) and energy-efficiency measures. Collective borrowing to finance the Recovery and Resilience Facility in response to COVID-19, along with the EU-wide vaccine strategy, demonstrated that the EU and its member states can act decisively together to boost their resilience. The EU action plan to digitize its energy system (presented by the European Commission in October 2022) and its other actions to support the implementation of an integrated and smart energy grid in the EU are welcome steps. A mix of different types of renewable energy combined with integrated and digital power grids can support a clean, efficient and reliable energy transformation in the EU – one that addresses the base-load issue and promotes the EU's strategic interests and security. Measures that delay or work against decarbonization of the energy system in the EU weaken its position internationally and potentially hamper global efforts to achieve the SDGs and the Paris Climate Agreement.

**The EU should not delay the implementation of ambitious supply- and demand-side measures to transform food systems and diets.** Transformation 4 calls for 'sustainable food production, healthy diets and biodiversity protection'. Globally, food systems are responsible for about a third of total greenhouse gas emissions and are projected to increase by 60–90% by 2050 if current trends continue. The SDGs similarly call for sustainable agriculture, biodiversity protection and responsible consumption. The EU has adopted a package of ambitious policies to transform its food systems – notably via the European Green Deal and its farm-to-fork and biodiversity strategies – and will likely

soon adopt a Nature Restoration Law. To the extent possible, implementation of these instruments should not be delayed. Any derogations to deal with the consequences of the war in Ukraine and increased food prices should be temporary. National Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) strategic plans should be aligned with EU's biodiversity and sustainability targets. Yet, at this stage, CAP strategic plans alone are unlikely to achieve the EU biodiversity strategy target of 10% of EU land being under strict protection, notably due to insufficient protection of wetlands and peatlands. The Parliament and Council's adoption of the EU Due Diligence Regulation and its transposal into national laws is needed urgently to make large companies accountable for negative impacts generated through food and other supply chains. SMEs and farmers need support to learn the 'grammar' of sustainability and to integrate sustainability principles at the management level. An EU-wide front-of-pack nutrition labelling scheme could also help address excesses and deficiencies in European diets. Finally, the EU must curb its exports of toxic pesticides that damage health and soils abroad, involve farmers from developing countries in regulatory processes, and pursue its efforts to develop alternative overland routes to help Ukraine export its agricultural products to mitigate food insecurity and shortages, notably in Africa.

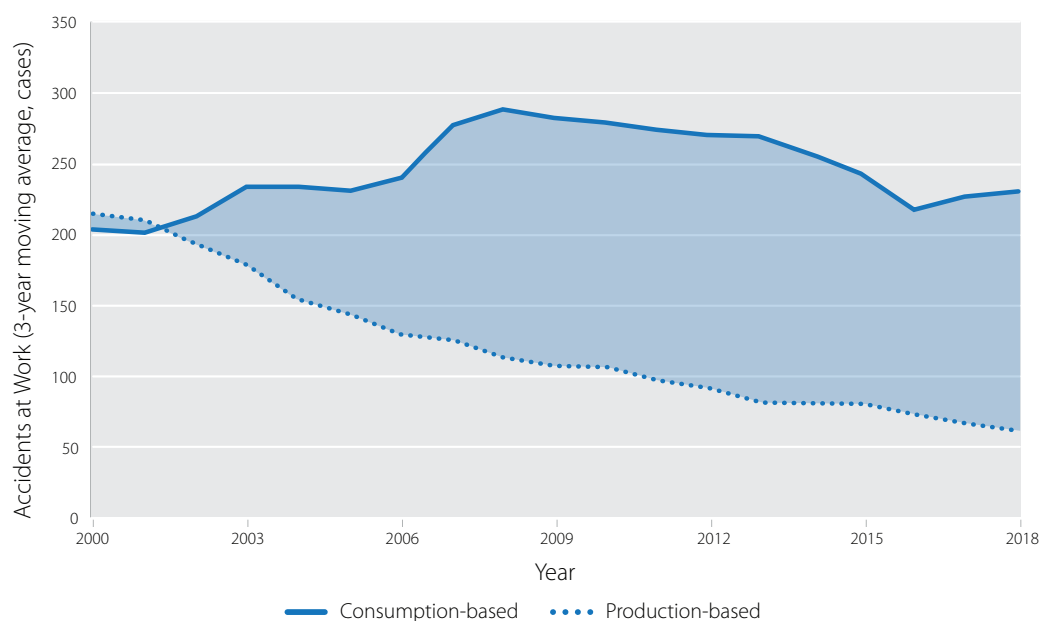
**The EU and member states perform poorly on the International Spillover Index.** Transformation 5 calls for 'clean and circular economy with zero pollution' and minimizing the environmental impact of European industry and consumers. Yet 40% of the greenhouse gases caused by the EU are emitted abroad. The EU's consumption can be linked to 1.2 million people in forced labour and more than 4,000 fatal workplace accidents each year. Biofuel mandates in Europe and other major economies have accelerated tropical deforestation and land displacement in other parts of the world. Growing demand in the EU for raw materials, notably for renewable energy and other technologies, fuels greenhouse gas emissions and forced labour internationally, while the shipment of waste to countries and regions that cannot manage it has profound ecological and health impacts. The war in Ukraine and energy crises in Europe and other regions have rebalanced public discussion and awareness, which was until recently overwhelmingly dominated by production-side measures towards sustainable consumption and energy efficiency. This shift might help accelerate actions to curb negative spillovers.

**The EU leads on the SDGs globally, but it generates large negative spillovers, notably through unsustainable consumption**

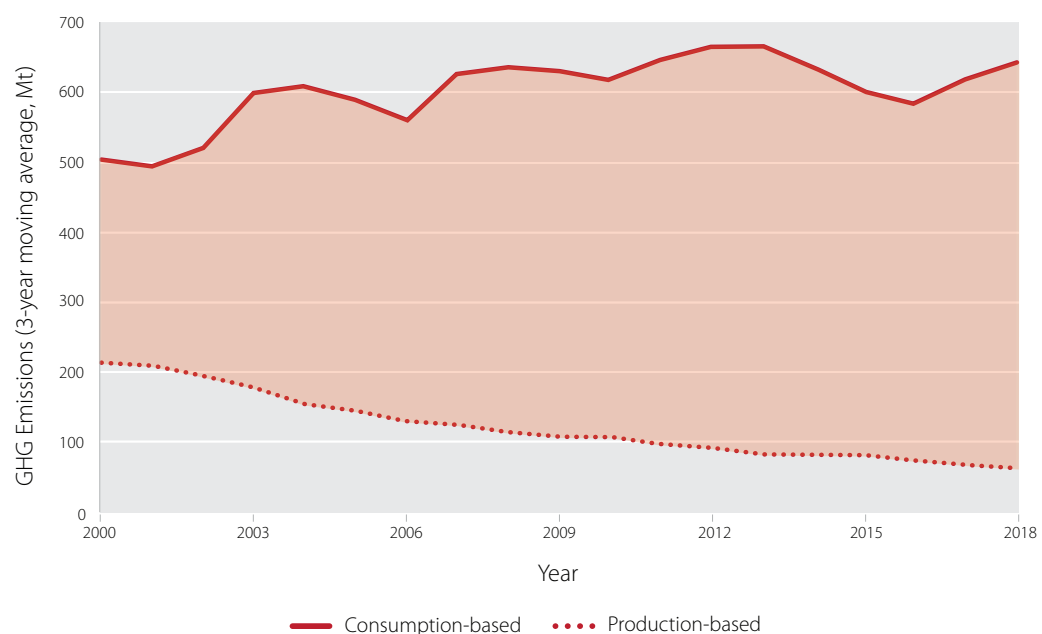


## Europe's demand for minerals amplifies greenhouse gas emissions and workplace accidents abroad, with no signs of structural decline in these consumption-based impacts

### Accidents at work



### Greenhouse gas emissions



---

There are also concerns about the impacts that macroeconomic policies in the EU and the US have on emerging markets and developing countries, especially as interest rates are rising. In her 6 October 2022 address to the Center for Global Development, US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen pointed out that ‘emerging markets and developing countries are often most acutely affected both by global shocks and by spillovers from the policies of advanced countries’.

**The EU has adopted or is in the process of adopting major instruments to curb negative international spillovers, but important loopholes remain.** The European Parliament has recently passed a bill to ban imports of deforestation-linked commodities and is discussing a similar instrument for forced labour. Negotiations related to the EU due diligence regulation (obliging companies to respect human rights and environmental issues in global value chains) and the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism are still on-going. In April 2022, the Swedish government announced its intention to become the first country in the world to set a target on consumption-based carbon emissions. Ensuring strong and transparent data systems at the international, national, industrial and corporate levels will be key for effective enforcement of such policies. Border regulations – especially import bans and tariffs – must be part of a larger package of efforts to support investment in cleaner production systems and digital technologies in developing countries. A comprehensive approach to curbing negative spillovers should build on SDG/Green Deal Diplomacy, coherent trade and external policies, and strengthened tax cooperation and transparency (to help developing countries raise revenue) along with applying EU standards to exports (including toxic pesticides), and eliminating trade in waste. Finally, efforts to bolster energy efficiency, recycling, technology, social innovations and sustainability standards can relieve the pressure and footprint of primary mineral supplies. The European Parliament’s October 2022 call on the European Commission to prepare a Communication on Policy Coherence before the end of its mandate, including quantitative and qualitative indicators, is a step in the right direction.

**Making it work: The EU should maintain its ambition to institutionalize the integration of the SDGs into macroeconomic coordination, budget processes and other policy instruments.** The integration of the SDGs into the European Semester, the EU’s main process for macroeconomic coordination, is a major step forward in terms of monitoring member state performance over time. As regards the Commission’s own legislative and non-legislative proposals, the Better Regulation system explicitly states that every legislative proposal must contribute to the SDGs. In addition, other EU organizations such as Eurostat and the Joint Research Centre have integrated the SDGs in their work programs for many years. There are many good examples of how the SDGs can be used in policy processes at the member states level, as well as in cities and regions, while the European Parliament has monitored the EU’s progress and commitments on the SDGs via a resolution adopted in June 2022. By themselves, however, these and other integration reforms do not guarantee a stronger focus on the SDGs. For example, European Commission guidelines to member states on how to prepare their National Recovery and Resilience Plans (NRRPs) do not explicitly mention the SDGs. The SDSN has identified gaps in NRRPs between the measures and budgets they propose and the SDG challenges member states face. Also, the somewhat watered-down EU taxonomy for sustainable investment sends a mixed message to the rest of the world.

**The EU needs to invest in facilitating multi-stakeholder dialogue on the 2030 Agenda to promote joint learning and accountability.** There is considerable societal demand in the EU citizenry for a stronger focus on SDGs. The citizen-led series of debates that took place as part of the Conference on the Future of Europe between April 2021 and May 2022 resulted in 49 proposals and 300 measures, many of them related to the SDGs. To avoid mistrust and disappointment in

---

such processes, the EU now needs to show how this process leads to concrete revisions of EU policies and how EU politics are run. In principle, this can strengthen the EU's implementation of the SDGs and inclusive institutions, as called for in SDG 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions). Civil society and scientific work may further inform EU actions on this matter. Under the Juncker Commission, a multi-stakeholder platform was set up to enable structured engagement with civil society, youth organizations, business community, trade unions and scientists on SDG policies and monitoring. However the platform's mandate was not renewed by the von der Leyen Commission, leaving a void for constructive dialogue with civil society, the business community, trade unions, youth organizations and scientists on SDG implementation. The comprehensive, goal-based and time-bound vision for sustainable development that the SDGs and 2030 Agenda provide, supported by strong multistakeholder partnerships and science-based pathways, should remain at the heart of European policymaking. Renewing the mandate and increasing the ambition of the multi-stakeholder platform would help bolster public support, promote inclusive institutions and provide key inputs to the future SDG priorities of the EU leadership.

**Making it count: The EU is well positioned to support international discussions on measuring the economic value of natural capital and revisions to the System of National Accounts (SNA, used to compute GDP) expected to be completed by 2025.** Ecosystem services provided by the natural capital such as food, water, shelter or climate regulation result in a flow of benefits for both the people and the economy. Metrics like GDP fail to capture benefits such as pollination, climate and biodiversity regulation or nature's ability to mitigate disasters. The next revision of the SNA is expected to be completed by 2025 (these revisions take place every 15 years). As part of this process, a wellbeing and sustainability task team has been established, and hopefully this will be an opportunity to enrich the SNA framework by incorporating a standard range of accounts for the environment, natural capital, health, education, and time use (among others). Technical agencies in the EU including Eurostat, the Joint Research Centre, the European Environment Agency and the UN Economic Commission for Europe have a lot to offer in these discussions. Eurostat, for instance, has developed advanced satellite environmental accounts (physical and monetary accounts) consistent with the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting and the SNA framework. Natural capital, and the non-market value of other SDGs, should not only be addressed in policy decisions but should also be a crucial factor in financial decisions and the appraisal of private-sector investments.



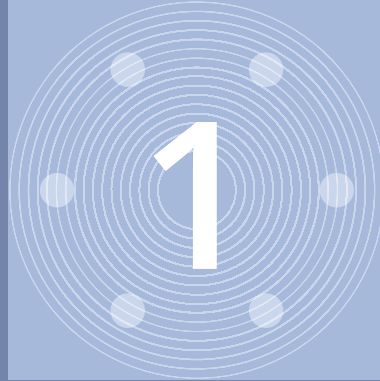
### Practical recommendations

We propose **five priority actions** to accelerate the SDGs in the EU and internationally. These are jointly directed at the European Commission and Council leadership, the European Parliament and member states.

1. Ensure that the 2023 EU voluntary review includes **three important elements: (1) internal priorities, (2) international spillovers, and (3) international partnerships and diplomacy for the SDGs.**
2. Release, by July 2023, **a joint political statement from the three pillars of EU governance** – the European Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission – complementing the EU-wide voluntary review and reaffirming their commitment to the 2030 Agenda in the context of multiple health, security, climate and financial crises, along with a renewed commitment towards achieving the SDGs in a multipolar world.
3. **Prepare a communication, to be issued by the European Commission, clarifying how the EU aims to achieve the SDGs in Europe** including targets, timelines and roadmaps for environmental and social issues (particularly those not captured in the European Green Deal). This communication, or ‘high-level EU SDG implementation strategy’ (as the European Parliament has called for) could be updated regularly. It could also identify areas where existing policies need to become more ambitious or coherent as well as areas where additional policies are needed. It could rely on a more operational SDG framework, such as the Six Transformations.
4. **Implement and reinforce the commitments** made at the G20 Summit in Bali, Indonesia and COP 27 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt supporting the UN Secretary-General’s call for an **SDG Stimulus** to address fiscal-space issues in developing countries and push for the adoption of a global mechanism to share fairly the burden of financing human-induced climate-change adaptation and loss and damage costs among countries most responsible.
5. **Develop a new mechanism or renew the mandate of the Multi-Stakeholder Platform** to foster a structured engagement with civil society, youth organizations, businesses, trade unions and scientists on SDG policies and monitoring. This would also complement efforts to engage civil society at large in the Conference on the Future of Europe and contribute to strengthening the inclusivity of EU institutions and policy-making while bolstering public support for the SDGs.

## Acronyms and abbreviations

<b>AI</b>	Artificial Intelligence	<b>GPSDD</b>	Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data
<b>AU</b>	African Union	<b>IDDRI</b>	Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations
<b>BARDA</b>	Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority	<b>IDOS</b>	German Institute of Development and Sustainability
<b>BCFN</b>	Barilla Center for Food & Nutrition Foundation	<b>IEEP</b>	Institute for European Environmental Policy
<b>BEPS</b>	Base-Erosion and Profit-Shifting	<b>IMF</b>	International Monetary Fund
<b>BMI</b>	Body Mass Index	<b>IPCC</b>	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
<b>BMU</b>	German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety	<b>IPES</b>	International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems
<b>BMZ</b>	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development	<b>IUCN</b>	International Union for Conservation of Nature
<b>BRI</b>	Belt and Road Initiative	<b>JRC</b>	Joint Research Centre (European Commission)
<b>BEPS</b>	Base erosion and profit shifting (OECD initiative)	<b>LNOB</b>	Leave No One Behind
<b>CAP</b>	Common Agricultural Policy	<b>MAES</b>	Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services
<b>CBD</b>	Convention on Biological Diversity	<b>MFF</b>	Multiannual Financial Framework
<b>COR</b>	European Committee of the Regions	<b>MPA</b>	Marine Protected Area
<b>DG</b>	Directorate-General	<b>NFRD</b>	Non-Financial Reporting Directive
<b>EBRD</b>	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	<b>NPI</b>	non-pharmaceutical intervention
<b>ECA</b>	European Court of Auditors	<b>NRRP</b>	National Recovery and Resilience Plans
<b>ECDC</b>	European Centre for Disease Control	<b>ODA</b>	Official Development Assistance
<b>EEA</b>	European Environment Agency	<b>OECD</b>	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
<b>EESC</b>	European Economic and Social Committee	<b>PCA</b>	Paris Climate Agreement
<b>EFTA</b>	European Free Trade Association	<b>PIAAC</b>	Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies
<b>EGD</b>	European Green Deal	<b>PISA</b>	Programme for International Student Assessment
<b>EIB</b>	European Investment Bank	<b>RRF</b>	Recovery and Resilience Facility
<b>EMA</b>	European Medicines Agency	<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>EMAS</b>	Eco-Management and Audit Scheme of the EU	<b>SDSN</b>	Sustainable Development Solutions Network
<b>ENoP</b>	European Network of Political Foundations	<b>SILC</b>	Statistics on Income and Living Conditions
<b>EPO</b>	European Patent Office	<b>SNA</b>	Systems of National Accounts
<b>ESDR</b>	Europe Sustainable Development Report	<b>STEM</b>	Science, technology, engineering and mathematics
<b>ERR</b>	effective reproduction rate	<b>TELOS</b>	Brabant Centre for Sustainable Development
<b>ESS</b>	European Statistical System	<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>ETTg</b>	European Think Tanks Groups	<b>UNECE</b>	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
<b>EU</b>	European Union	<b>UNEP</b>	United Nations Environment Programme
<b>F2F</b>	Farm-to-Fork	<b>UNFCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>F4F</b>	Fit for Future Platform of the European Commission	<b>UNGA</b>	UN General Assembly
<b>FABLE</b>	Food, Agriculture, Biodiversity, Land Use and Energy Pathways	<b>WBGU</b>	German Advisory Council on Global Change
<b>FOLU</b>	Food and Land Use Coalition	<b>WCMC</b>	World Conservation Monitoring Centre
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product		
<b>GDPR</b>	General Data Protection Regulation		
<b>GNI</b>	Gross National Income		



# **Performance of European Countries Against the SDGs**

## Part 1.

# Performance of European Countries Against the SDGs

The adoption in 2015 of three major international agreements – the 2030 Agenda with its SDGs, the Paris Climate Agreement, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on financing for development – represented major global breakthroughs for the international community. For the first time in history, all UN member states agreed on a common set of goals for sustainable development (to be achieved by 2030, with mid-century goals for the Paris Climate Agreement) and established major principles and priorities for their financing. These commitments were made possible only through decades of work and advocacy by scientists, experts, governments, and civil society. Yet multiple health and security crises, amplified by the climate and biodiversity crises, are now putting the sustainable development agenda at risk. The global and European SDG Indices show that SDG progress has stalled since 2019.

The SDG Index and Dashboards for Europe provide an overview of the SDG performance of the European Union and of 38 individual European countries (including candidate and partner countries such as the United Kingdom). We highlight areas of achievement as well as opportunities for progress, and use the data to benchmark the progress of European sub-regions. We also discuss the impact of COVID-19 on SDG goals and indicators and where there are signs of recovery. Due to time lags in data reporting, this year's edition does not reflect the impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, although we discuss its potential implications in the short term.

This year's edition covers the 27 EU member states, 4 countries of the European Free Trade Association (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland), the United Kingdom, EU candidate countries (Albania, the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Türkiye) as well as Bosnia and Herzegovina. Due to their very recent accession to the status of candidate country, and in light of significant data gaps and lags, Ukraine and Moldova are not included in this year's edition. Future editions may include all candidate countries, including those added earlier in 2022.

The methodology of the ESDR is based on the Sustainable Development Report. This methodology has been peer-reviewed and has been peer reviewed by Cambridge University Press and Nature Geoscience, and statistically audited by the European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC) (Sachs et al., 2022a; Schmidt-Traub et al., 2017; Papadimitriou et al., 2019a). The 2022 SDG Index for Europe includes 110 indicators from official and non-official statistics. For 98 of these indicators, it was possible to evaluate progress towards the SDG targets over time, from 2015 until the most recent data point available. Annex 1 provides more details about the methodology. The database and data visualisation portals are accessible online ([www.sdgindex.org](http://www.sdgindex.org)).

### 1.1. The SDG Index score over time

**The COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine and other crises are slowing down progress on the SDGs in Europe and the rest of the world.** The EU27 SDG Index score has continued to stall for a second year in a row. Over the period 2015–2019, the EU progressed on the Index by an annual average of 0.7 percentage points (p.p), largely driven by progress in European sub-regions that started from lower

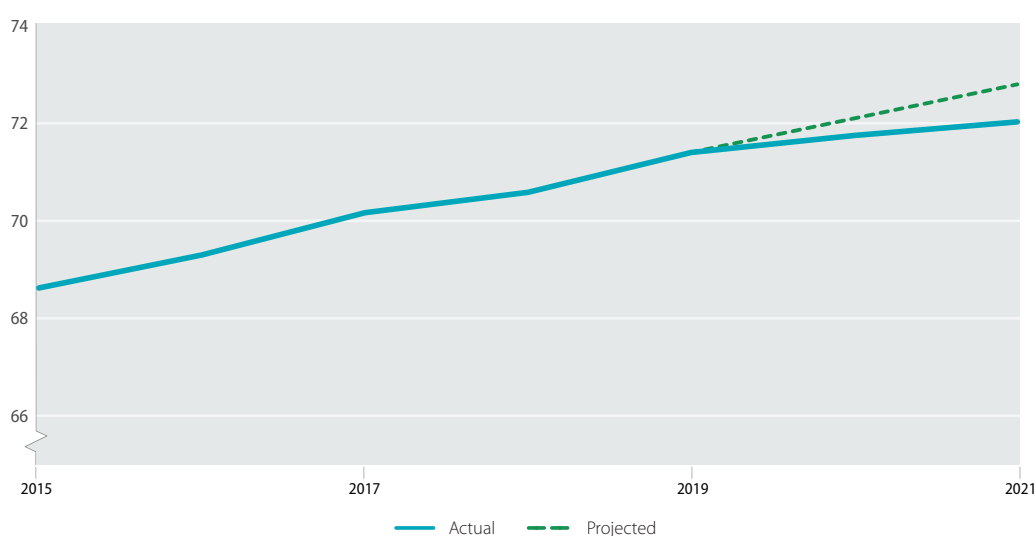
SDG Index scores, such as the Baltic States, candidate countries, Central and Eastern Europe and Southern Europe, which until 2019 were all improving on average by 0.9 p.p. each year. Since 2019, however, the rate of annual SDG progress in the EU has halved (+0.3 p.p.), with some socioeconomic indicators now moving in the wrong direction. Figure 1.1 presents the actual SDG Index score compared to its projected value using growth rates prior to the onset of the pandemic in 2020.

**Within Europe, there are major differences in SDG performance and progress across regions, countries and goals.** Overall, the EU27 obtains an overall SDG Index score of 72 (out of 100). Northern European countries perform best, with an average SDG Index score of 81. Finland tops the SDG Index for Europe for the third year in a row, followed by Sweden and Denmark. By contrast, candidate countries have greater gaps to close to achieve the SDGs, with an average SDG Index score of 58, driven notably by poorer performance on socio-economic goals (SDG 1, SDGs 3 through 9) and on SDG 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions).

Halfway into the SDGs, we estimate that **the EU has achieved or is on track to achieve a bit more than two-thirds of the SDG targets (Figure 1.2)**. While Northern Europe has achieved or is on track to achieve approximately 78% of the targets, for more than 10% of the targets the trend is heading in the wrong direction both in the EU as a whole and in Northern Europe. Both Southern Europe and Central and Eastern Europe are below the EU27 average, with respectively 59% and 53% of the SDG targets achieved or on track to be achieved, while candidate countries are on track to achieving fewer than half (44%) by 2030 and are heading in the wrong direction on 22% of the SDG targets.

Our results show that some convergence has occurred over the past decade, with European regions and countries that began from lower SDG Index scores progressing faster than those that from the start in 2015 had higher scores (Figure 1.3). From 2015 to 2021, the scores of Central and Eastern European countries and candidate countries grew at an average annual rate of 0.8 p.p., whereas the SDG Index score of Northern Europe grew at an average annual rate

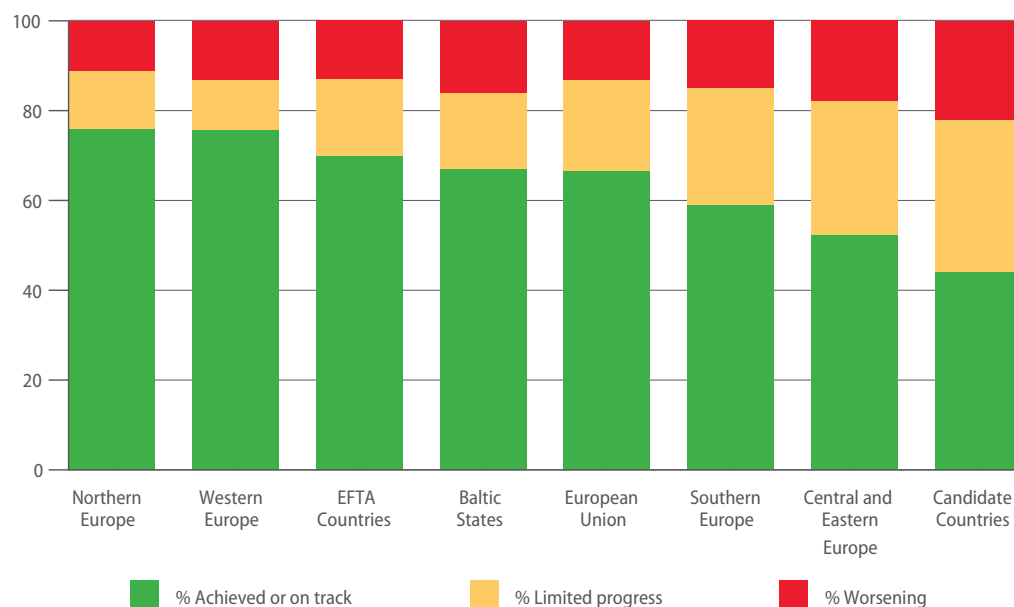
**Figure 1.1 |** The SDG Index Score over time of the European Union (2015–2021)



*Note:* The extrapolation used to calculate the projected score is based on a linear application of the growth rate from 2015 to 2019 — the most recent period before the onset of the pandemic. Scores represent the population-weighted EU27 average.

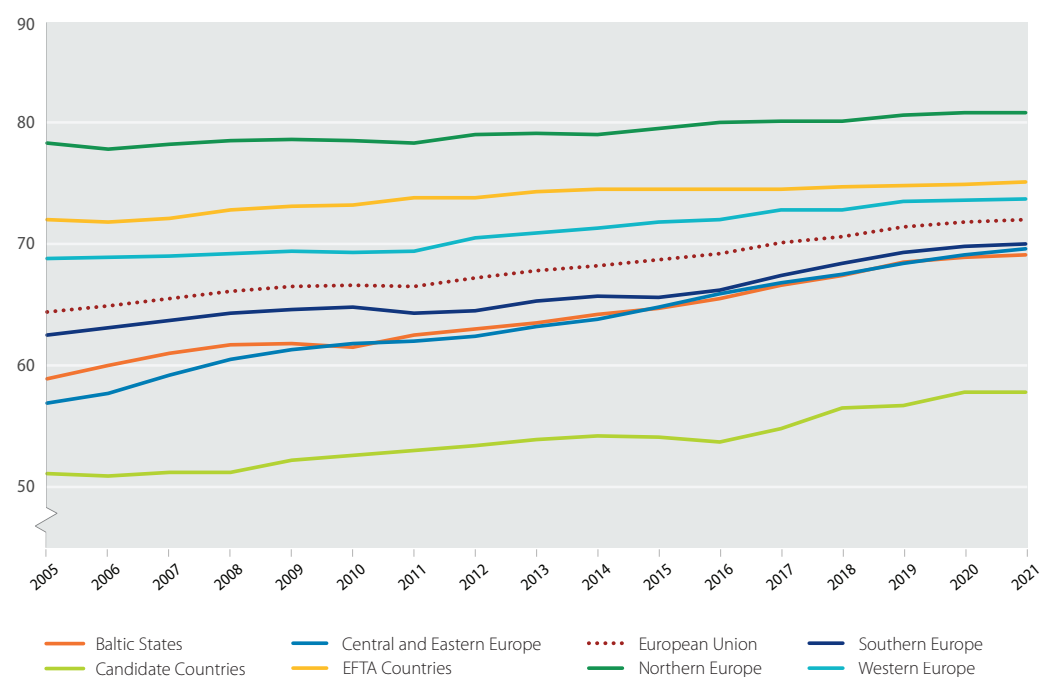
*Source:* Authors

Figure 1.2 | Status of SDG targets by Europe sub-region (% trend indicators)



Source: Authors

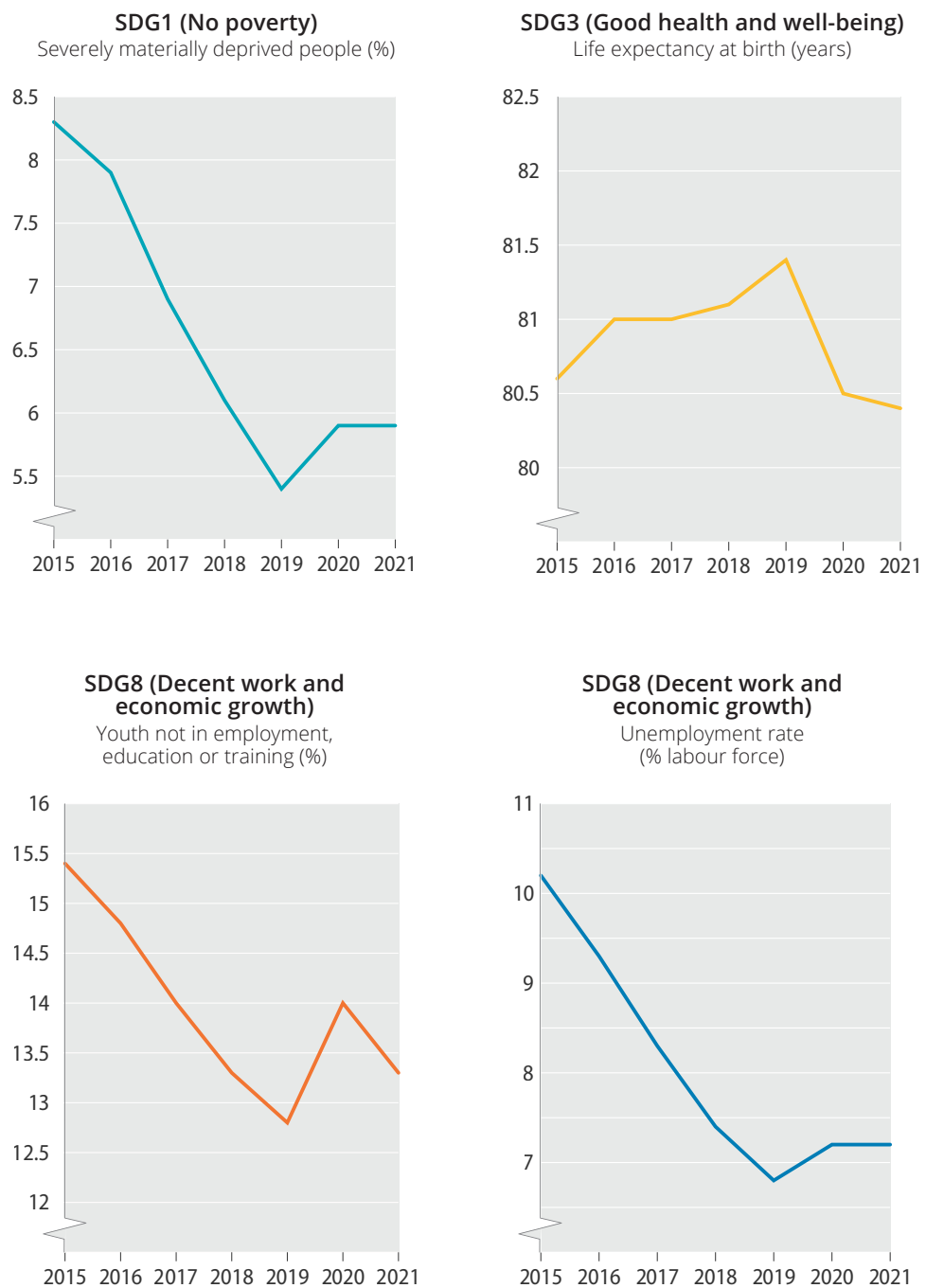
Figure 1.3 | SDG Index Scores, EU27 and European regions, 2005-2021



Note: Population-weighted averages for each subregion. Baltic States: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Candidate Countries: Albania, the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Türkiye. Central and Eastern European Europe: Bulgaria, Czechia, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic and Slovenia. Northern Europe: Denmark, Finland and Sweden. Southern Europe: Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal and Spain. Western Europe: Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. EFTA Countries: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. As a potential candidate country, Bosnia and Herzegovina is not included in any of the subregional averages. SDG Index scores range from 0 (lowest) to 100 (best).

Source: Authors

Figure 1.4 | SDG indicators particularly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, EU27



Source: Authors' calculations, based on Eurostat

of 0.2 p.p. However, the pace of convergence is slow. If average growth rates since 2015 continued unchanged, candidate countries would take 30 years to even reach Northern Europe's current SDG Index score.

**Slow progress on the SDG Index since 2019 has largely been driven by stagnation or even reversal of progress on the socio-economic goals and targets (Figure 1.4).** Vulnerable groups and populations in Europe and in the rest of the world have been particularly affected by COVID-19 (Lancet COVID-19 Commission, 2021). In Europe, COVID-19 caused a decline in life expectancy that hadn't been seen for 70 years (Aburto et al. 2021), and caused delays in health interventions and increased mental health issues (OECD 2021). Levels of material deprivation and unemployment rates, however, remain above pre-pandemic levels in the EU27, while some indicators were showing signs of recovery in 2021, including reductions in the share of young people not in employment, education or training (NEET). But the Russian aggression in Ukraine, the energy crisis, inflation and budgetary constraints all threaten to slow down or even reverse this recovery.

## 1.2. The 2022 SDG index ranking and dashboards for Europe

The 2022 SDG Index for Europe is topped by Northern European countries. Finland ranks first for a third year in a row, followed by Sweden and Denmark – which all have scores close to or above 80 (out of 100). Yet the SDG dashboards show that even these countries face major challenges (red dashboard rating) in achieving at least two goals.

**Overall, Europe faces four major SDG challenges.** The **first** is related to **poor performance on environmental goals**, covered under SDG 2 (Zero hunger) and SDGs 12 through 15 (climate and biodiversity goals). Unsustainable diets and food systems, domestic and imported greenhouse gas emissions, and biodiversity threats

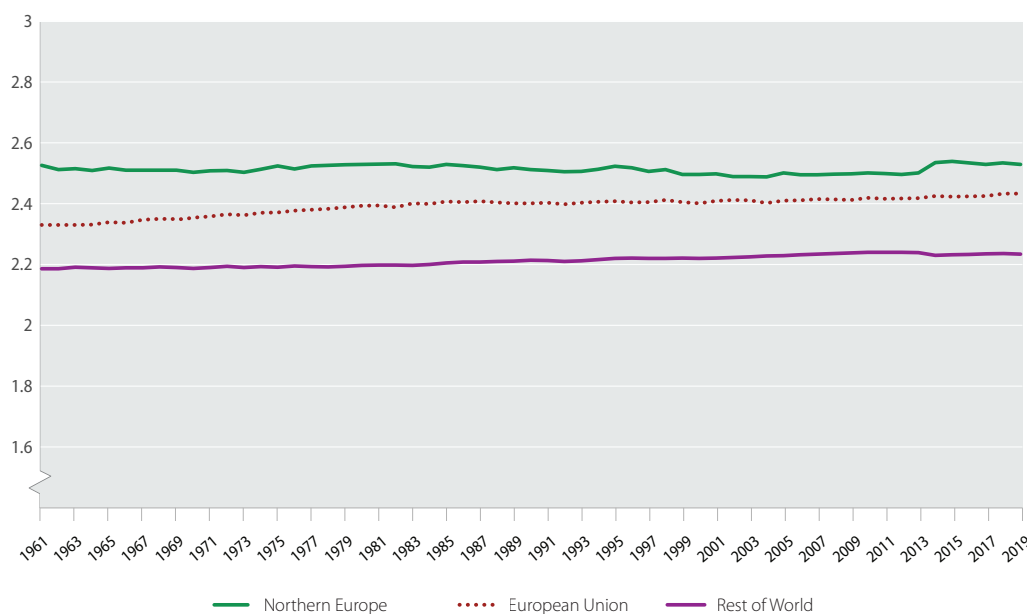
drive poor performance on these goals at the EU27 level.

As one example, even the top-ranking countries in Northern Europe perform poorly on indicators related to sustainable diets. Dietary composition is measured in the SDG Index by trophic levels (Figure 1.5). Specifically, these levels describe the positions that a species occupies in a food web, ranging from primary producers to apex predators (a range of 1–5, starting at 1 with plants) (Bonhommeau et al., 2013). Herbivores like cows feed on plants – thus, their trophic level is 2. A country with a half cow/half plant diet would have a trophic level of 2.5. Between each trophic level, there is a loss of energy, meaning that more primary production is required to sustain higher trophic levels. The trophic levels of diets in Northern Europe are among the highest in the world. They exceed 2.57 in Iceland and Finland, where typical diets are to a large extent composed of meat, fish or dairy products, with only a low consumption of vegetables. In Iceland, the national trophic level has decreased since the early 1960s, however, whereas it has increased over the same period in Western European countries such as France or Germany. In a country like Nigeria, trophic level is close to 2. IPBES reports and other scientific studies emphasize the urgent need to transition to more sustainable and healthy diets to achieve climate-, biodiversity- and health-related SDGs.

The **second** challenge relates to **inequalities within countries**. From an international perspective, social protection systems and other socio-economic policies make Europe one of the most equal continents in the world. However, there are persisting gaps in access to and quality of services and opportunities across population groups in some EU member states and candidate countries. Vulnerable groups are particularly impacted by multiple health, security and economic crises. This is covered more in the next section (1.3), which presents the 2022 'leave no one behind' Index.



Figure 1.5 | Sustainability of Diets: Human Trophic Level, 1960-2019



*Note:* Trophic Levels range from 1-5. Primary producers, such as plants or phytoplankton, are defined as trophic level 1 (1, 4). Subsequent trophic levels are then calculated as a mean of the trophic levels of food items in a species' diet, weighted by quantity, plus one. Between each trophic level, there is a loss of energy. See Bonhommeau et al, 2013 for details. For this chart, the countries included in the Northern Europe population-weighted average include Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. The European Union average corresponds to the population-weighted average of the EU27.

*Source:* Authors' calculation based on Bonhommeau et al, 2013 (updated database)

The **third** challenge relates to persisting differences in SDG **performance across European countries and regions**. This is generally referred to as 'convergence' in Europe and by EU leaders. Northern Europe, EFTA countries and Western Europe all perform above the EU27 average on the SDG Index score. On the other hand, Baltic States, Southern Europe, and Central and Eastern European countries perform slightly below the average EU27 score, although these subregions have progressed more rapidly over the past decade, and candidate countries perform well below the EU27 average, driven mostly by poorer performance on socio-economic goals and on SDG 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions). The pace of convergence is slow, and is likely driven by better performance in capital regions or urban agglomerations, with other regions and rural areas lagging behind.

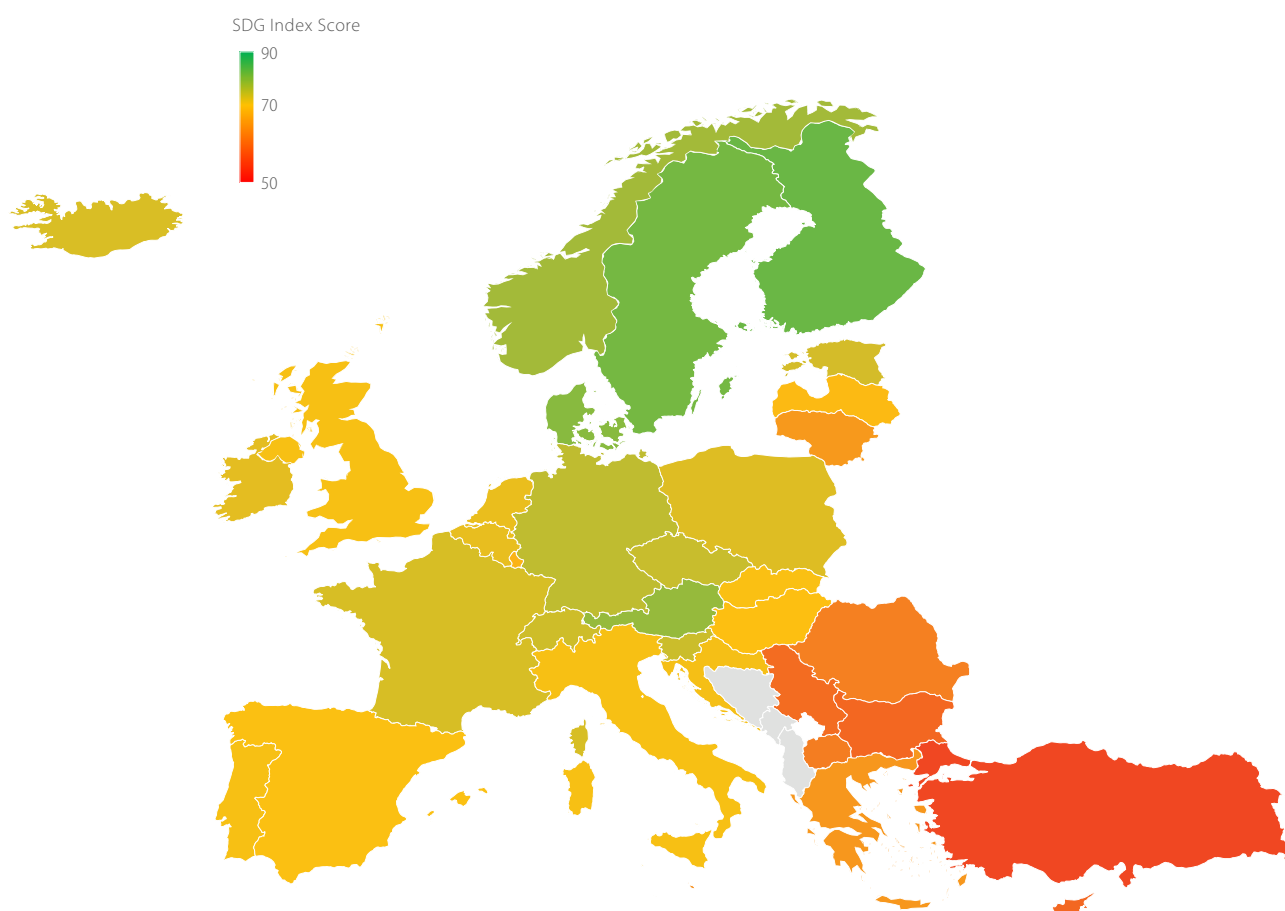
The **fourth** challenge is related to **negative international spillovers** embodied into trade

and financial flows. Through unsustainable consumption, exports of toxic pesticides and plastic waste, unfair tax competition, and profit shifting (among other reasons), many European countries often undermine other countries' ability to achieve the SDGs. At the same time, the EU and its member states are the largest providers of official development assistance (ODA) in the world – although the current multiple crises are putting additional pressures on the concessional finance that European countries provide to promote sustainable development globally. Section 1.4 discusses the International Spillover Index and policy priorities to curb negative impacts generated by the EU abroad.

### 1.3. Leave no one behind and convergence process in Europe

The SDGs call for addressing inequalities *within* and *across* countries. The 'leave no one behind'

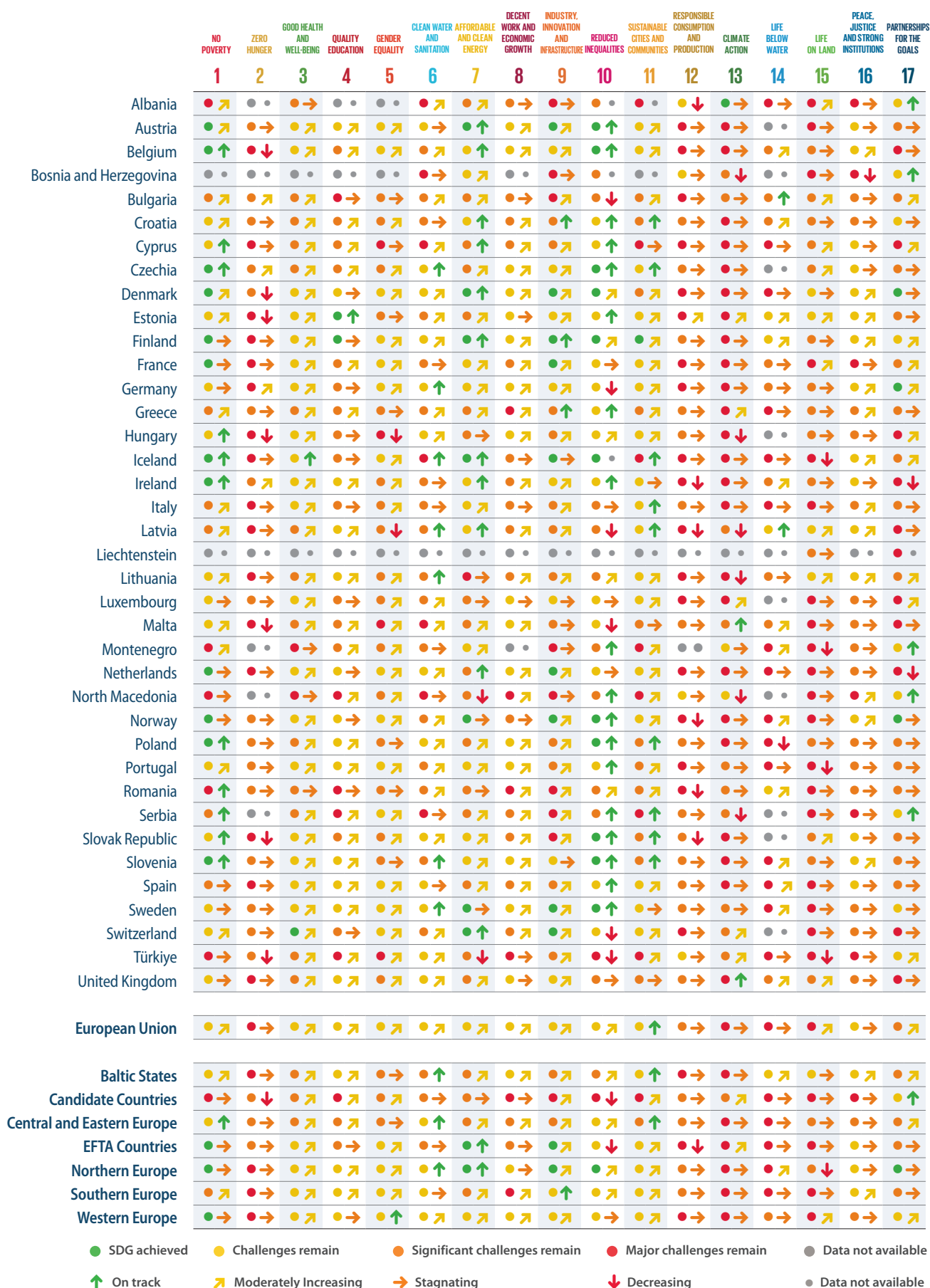
Figure 1.6 | The 2022 SDG Index Scores and Rankings by country and subregions



SDG Index Rank	Country	SDG Index Score					
1	Finland	81.7	18	Portugal	70.6	<b>European Union</b>	<b>72.0</b>
2	Sweden	80.6	19	Italy	70.6	Baltic States	69.1
3	Denmark	79.2	20	United Kingdom	70.5	Candidate Countries	57.8
4	Austria	78.2	21	Slovak Republic	70.2	Central and Eastern Europe	69.6
5	Norway	77.2	22	Spain	70.1	EFTA Countries	75.1
6	Germany	74.8	23	Hungary	69.9	Northern Europe	80.8
7	Czechia	74.2	24	Latvia	69.5	Southern Europe	70.0
8	Slovenia	74.0	25	Luxembourg	68.7	Western Europe	73.7
9	Switzerland	73.7	26	Lithuania	66.1		
10	Estonia	73.2	27	Greece	65.7		
11	France	73.1	28	Malta	64.9		
12	Iceland	72.8	29	Romania	63.4	Albania	NA
13	Poland	72.4	30	North Macedonia	62.9	Bosnia and Herzegovina	NA
14	Ireland	72.2	31	Serbia	61.1	Liechtenstein	NA
15	Belgium	71.7	32	Cyprus	60.7	Montenegro	NA
16	Netherlands	71.6	33	Bulgaria	60.7		
17	Croatia	70.7	34	Türkiye	56.7		

Source: Authors

Figure 1.7 | The 2022 SDG Dashboards by country and sub-regions



principle, which is incorporated into the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda, is commonly invoked in reference to inequalities *within* each country. SDG 10 (Reduced inequalities) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals) call for reducing inequalities *across* countries and for increased partnerships. In Europe and by EU leadership, this is generally referred to as ‘convergence’. The case for addressing both types of inequalities, within and across countries, has been reinforced by the COVID-19 pandemic and by the threats posed by geopolitical tensions and climate change, including rising energy and food prices that disproportionately affect the most vulnerable countries and population groups.

To measure inequalities within countries, including their evolution over time, SDSN has developed a ‘leave no one behind’ – or ‘LNOB’ – index for European countries. From a global perspective, the EU is among the most equal regions in the world, offering the most advanced social protection system and universal access to basic services. The European version of the LNOB Index aims to capture persisting gaps and differences across European countries and to identify areas where policymakers must remain vigilant, due for instance to stagnation or reversal of progress in recent years.

Northern European countries obtain the highest scores on the 2022 European LNOB Index (Figure 1.8). Norway, Finland and Iceland are at the top of the index, with scores ranging from 85.6 to 87.7, points, mainly driven by low levels of income inequality and material deprivation in these countries. On the other hand, stark within-country inequalities are seen in the Baltic States and Central and Eastern European countries, which appear at the bottom of the 2022 Europe LNOB Index (with average scores of around 70). EU candidate countries face many difficulties in catching up with Europe in terms of the LNOB index, primarily due to their much higher rates of material deprivation and poverty.

Since the adoption of the SDGs, most European countries have made some progress towards meeting the LNOB ideals, although progress has stalled on a number of its dimensions since 2019. Central and Eastern European countries have made the most progress overall. Since 2019, however, only the LNOB sub-pillar related to gender equality has shown any significant progress (Figure 1.9). This shift has been driven by an increasing share of women in parliament and in management positions in many EU countries. Still, no EU country has fully achieved SDG 5 (Gender equality). Other dimensions show no progress

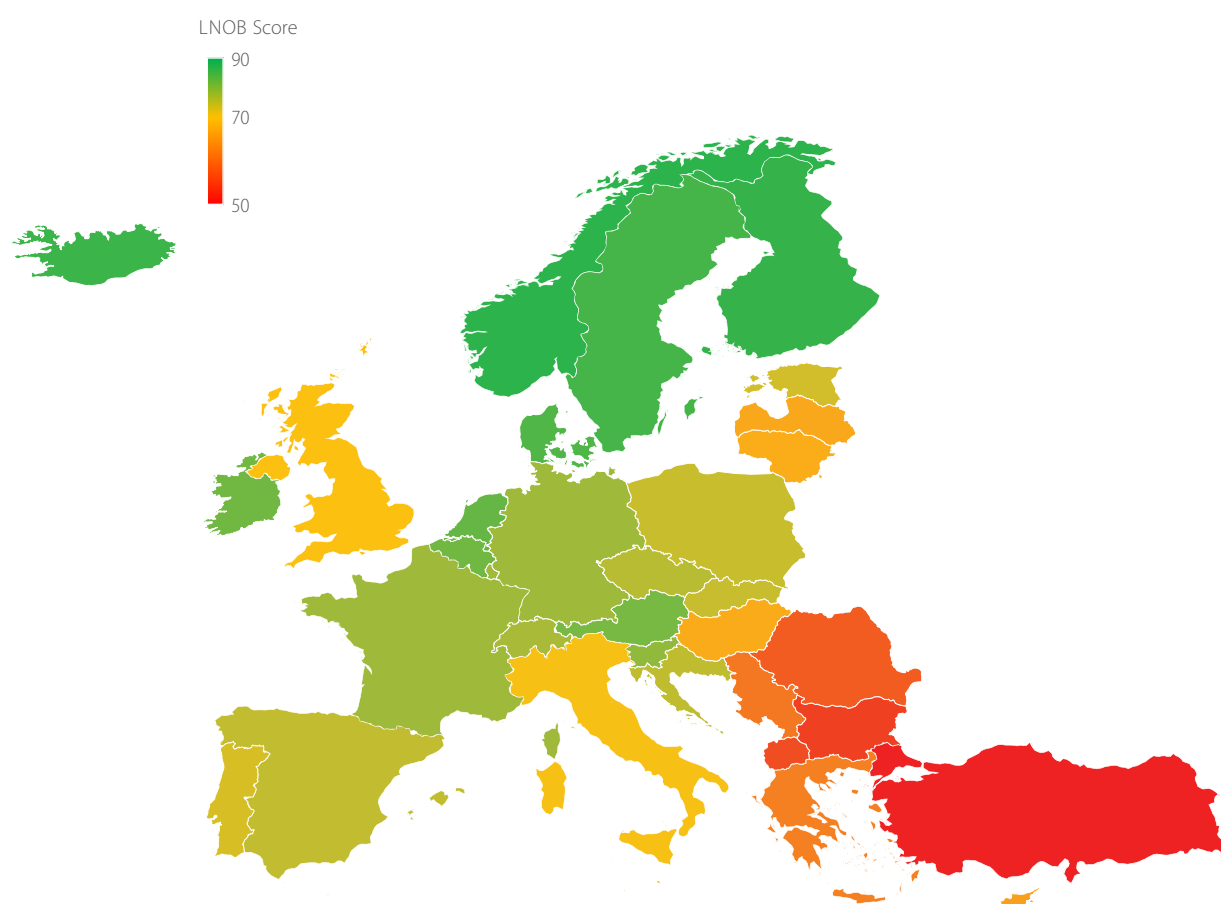
### Box 1. The Leave No One Behind Index (LNOB)

The LNOB Index measures inequalities within countries. It is composed of a subset of 32 indicators (all also used in the overall SDG Index and Dashboards) and reflects the progress of European countries on four main dimensions of inequality:

- **Extreme poverty and material deprivation** (e.g. poverty after social transfers, and disparities in the coverage of health insurance);
- **Income inequality and the respect of fundamental labor rights;**
- **Gender inequality** (e.g. gender pay and employment gaps, and representation of women in leading positions in the public and private sectors);
- **Access to and quality of services** (e.g. disparities in access to and quality of key services, including education and health, by population group).

The LNOB index is scored on a scale of 0 to 100, where higher scores represent better performance and therefore less inequality. More information on indicator sources and aggregation is accessible in the Methods’ summary section.

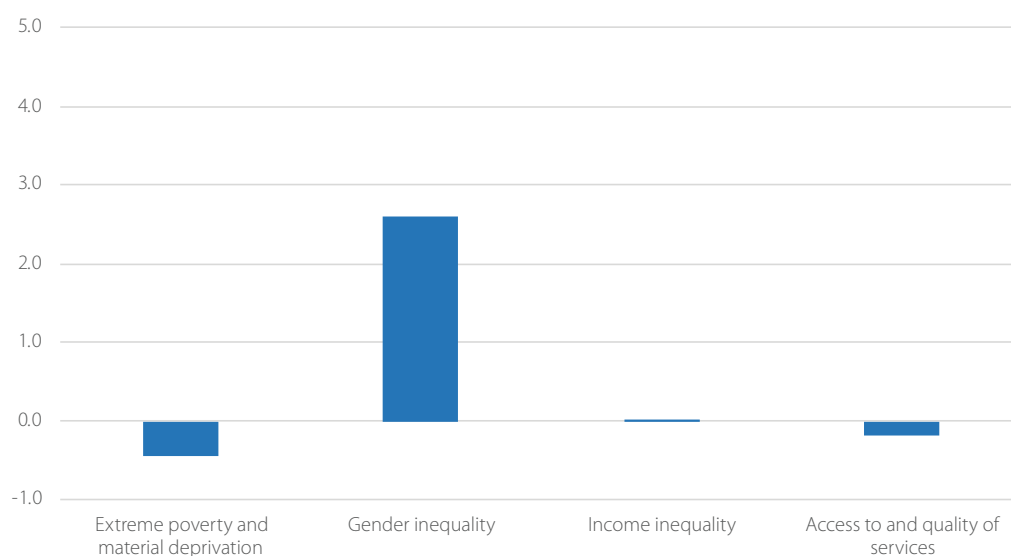
Figure 1.8 | Leave no one behind index score for Europe



LNOB Index Rank	Country	LNOB Index Score					
1	Norway	87.7	18	Slovak Republic	74.4	<b>European Union</b>	<b>74.9</b>
2	Finland	86.5	19	Poland	74.2	Northern Europe	84.9
3	Iceland	85.7	20	Estonia	73.5	EFTA Countries	83.3
4	Sweden	84.4	21	Portugal	73.1	Western Europe	78.5
5	Denmark	83.6	22	Malta	71.4	Southern Europe	71.7
6	Netherlands	82.0	23	Italy	70.6	Central and Eastern Europe	70.2
7	Belgium	81.1	24	United Kingdom	70.0	Baltic States	69.3
8	Ireland	81.1	25	Lithuania	68.1	Candidate Countries	48.0
9	Austria	80.6	26	Hungary	67.9	Albania	NA
10	Slovenia	78.5	27	Latvia	67.5	Bosnia and Herzegovina	NA
11	Germany	77.5	28	Cyprus	66.8	Liechtenstein	NA
12	France	77.5	29	Greece	63.3	Montenegro	NA
13	Luxembourg	77.2	30	Serbia	62.5		
14	Switzerland	76.8	31	Romania	59.5		
15	Czechia	75.6	32	North Macedonia	57.8		
16	Croatia	74.9	33	Bulgaria	56.2		
17	Spain	74.7	34	Türkiye	46.7		

Source: Authors

Figure 1.9 | EU27 progress on LNOB Index by dimension in p.p., 2019-2021



Source: Authors

or even negative trends, including on extreme poverty and material deprivation, and access to and quality of services for all. Even countries that perform rather well should remain vigilant to reversals of progress on LNOB in the context of rising inflation and likely economic recession in 2023 in many European countries, which will disproportionately affect the most vulnerable. Previous editions of the ESDR have discussed the relationship between LNOB and sustainable development at large (Lafortune et al., 2021).

SDSN and its partners have been documenting territorial inequalities in SDG performance for some years now. SDG Indices and Dashboards reports for cities and regions underline differences in SDG achievements within countries and territories (Figure 1.10). SDSN Networks have recently published assessments for Greek, Italian and Spanish cities, and also for cities and regions in Benin, Brazil and Malaysia, among others. These reports provide a more comprehensive overview of SDG gaps and challenges at the territorial level. Global, regional and subnational editions are increasingly being used by policymakers and by multilateral development banks and private financial institutions to inform

sustainable investment decisions (notably in the context of innovative sovereign financing instruments, including SDG bonds).

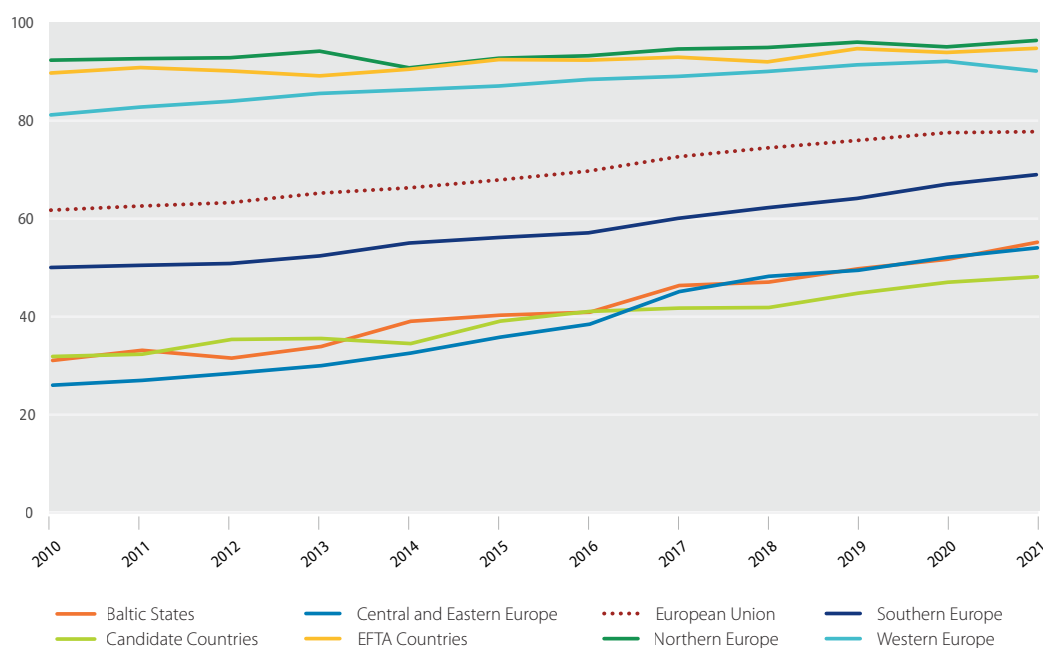
The spread in performance across European countries is still very broad on certain goals, suggesting that the convergence process remains too slow (or is driven mainly by large cities). SDG 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) is at once the goal for which the greatest number of countries score 'green' on the dashboards (very high performance) and the one showing the most 'red' scores (very poor performance). Strengthening EU performance on SDG 9 will be key to improving productivity and living standards across the continent. Countries and regions that began in 2010 with lower SDG 9 scores have grown faster than those that began with higher scores, yet the convergence between European countries on this goal, and their social convergence – measured by the LNOB Index score, are still insufficient (Figure 1.11).

The promotion of economic and social convergence among EU member states is at the core of the European project. This is more important than ever in the context of increasing

**Figure 1.10** | SDG Index and Dashboards: global, regional and subnational editions (2016–2022)



**Figure 1.11** | Progress on SDG 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) goal scores by European subregion (2010-2021)



Source: Authors

geopolitical tensions and major crises, where EU-wide unity and solidarity are needed for decisive and swift actions. To avoid a wave of relocations and offshoring due to rising energy prices in Europe and other factors, it is also crucial for the EU to strengthen its industrial and innovation capacities.

### 1.4 International spillovers from European countries

The 2030 Agenda and the SDGs recognize the importance of international spillovers in several crucial ways. SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals) calls for 'policy coherence' for sustainable development, SDG 12 (Responsible consumption and production) stresses the need for more sustainable production and consumption, and SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth) demands the eradication of child labour and modern slavery. The EU has called for 'zero tolerance' of child labour and proposed using trade to export European values throughout the world (von der Leyen, 2019).

Spillovers – both positive and negative – must be understood, measured and carefully managed. Until now, institutional frameworks to assess the SDGs have mainly focused on domestic performance (Ino et al. 2021). Governments at the national and regional levels (including at the EU level) must increase their capacity to measure how their societies impact the ability of other countries to progress on the SDGs. These benefits or costs may be referred to as *positive or negative externalities*. Countries cannot achieve the SDGs while negative externalities from other countries are counteracting their efforts (Schmidt-Traub et al., 2019). International spillovers occur when one country's actions generate benefits for or impose costs on another country which are not reflected in market prices and therefore not 'internalized' by the actions of consumers and producers (Sachs et al., 2017). The International Spillover Index is structured around four main dimensions (Box 2.).

The EU performs better than the rest of the world on the global SDG Index, due mainly to better



### Box 2. The international spillover index.

the 2022 European Spillover Index comprises 14 indicators that are all included in the overall SDG Index. It measures Europe's progress in reducing environmental and social spillovers embodied in trade, spillovers related to economic and financial flows across countries, and peacekeeping and security spillovers.

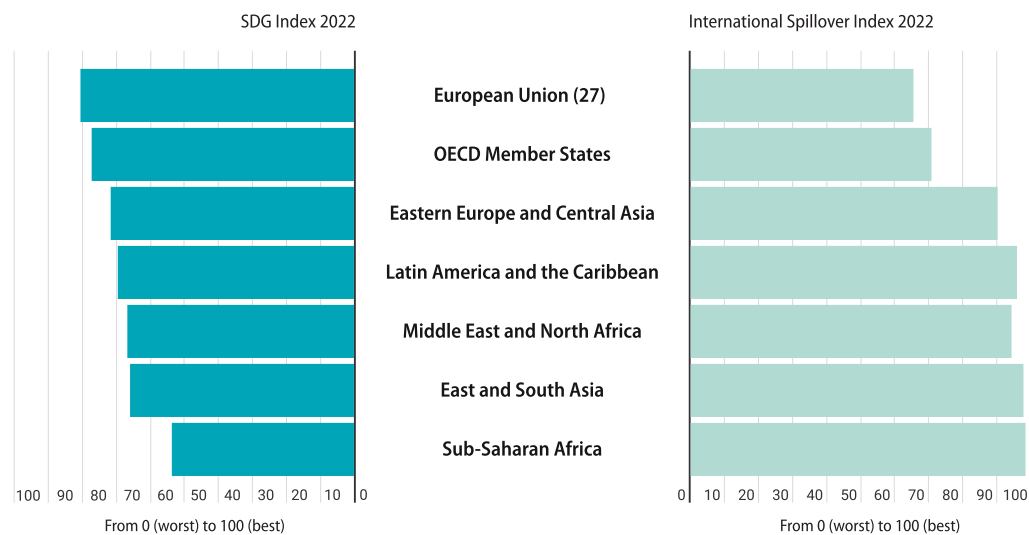
SDSN is working with partners to strengthen the availability and timeliness of data on international spillovers, including through flagship initiatives such as the Global Commons Stewardship Index, which measures countries' impacts beyond domestic concerns (Lafortune, Wendling, et al., 2021; SDSN et al., 2020) and specific supply chains studies (Malik et al., 2021).

Conceptually, international spillovers in the context of the SDGs can be grouped into four categories:

- **Environmental and social spillovers embodied in trade.** These cover international impacts related to pollution and the use of natural resources, as well as social impacts generated by the consumption of goods and services. Multi-regional input-output (MRIO) models, combined with satellite datasets, provide powerful tools to track impacts generated worldwide by consuming countries. This category of spillovers also includes exports of toxic pesticides and the illegal wildlife trade. They are particularly connected to SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth), SDGs 12 through 15 (related to responsible consumption, climate and biodiversity), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals). They also indirectly affect all other SDGs.
- **Spillovers related to economic and financial flows.** These include unfair tax competition, corruption, banking secrecy, profit shifting, tax havens and stolen assets, which all undermine the capacity of other countries to leverage resources to achieve the SDGs. They also include positive spillovers (or handprints) such as international development finance (for example, ODA). These types of spillovers are closely related to SDG 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals) – and indirectly to all other SDGs, notably through ODA.
- **Peacekeeping and security spillovers.** These include negative externalities such as organized international crime or exports of major conventional weapons or small arms, which can have a destabilizing impact on poor countries. Among the positive spillovers in this category are investments in conflict-prevention and peacekeeping. These spillovers are particularly related to SDG 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals), but also indirectly connected with most of the SDGs, including poverty, hunger and health as well as other socio-economic goals.
- **Direct cross-border flows in air and water.** These cover effects generated through physical flows – for instance of air and water – from one country to another. Cross-border air and water pollution are difficult to attribute to a country of origin, and this remains an important data gap. Unfortunately, the International Spillover Index does not currently include any indicators to track these types of spillovers. They are particularly related to SDG 6 (Clean water and sanitation) and SDGs 12–15 on climate and biodiversity, but they also concern many other goals, including SDG 3 (Good health and well-being).

Further details on indicator sources and aggregation for the International Spillover Index are provided in the methodology annex and online.

Figure 1.12 | SDG Index scores versus International Spillover Index scores (global edition)



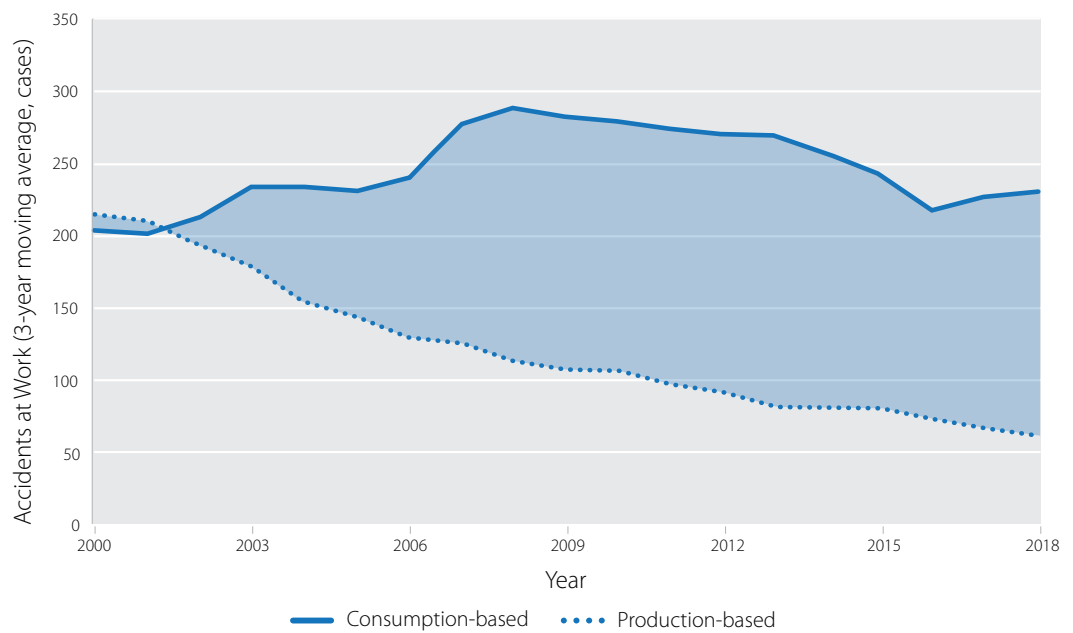
Source: Sachs et al., 2022

relative performance on socio-economic goals (SDGs 1 to 9). But it comes last on the International Spillover Index compared with other world regions. This is driven by unsustainable consumption along with persisting challenges related to illicit financial flows, unfair tax competition, and profit shifting in some European countries. In this context, the EU's active engagement in reducing sources of adverse spillovers is fundamental to meeting the SDGs at the global level.

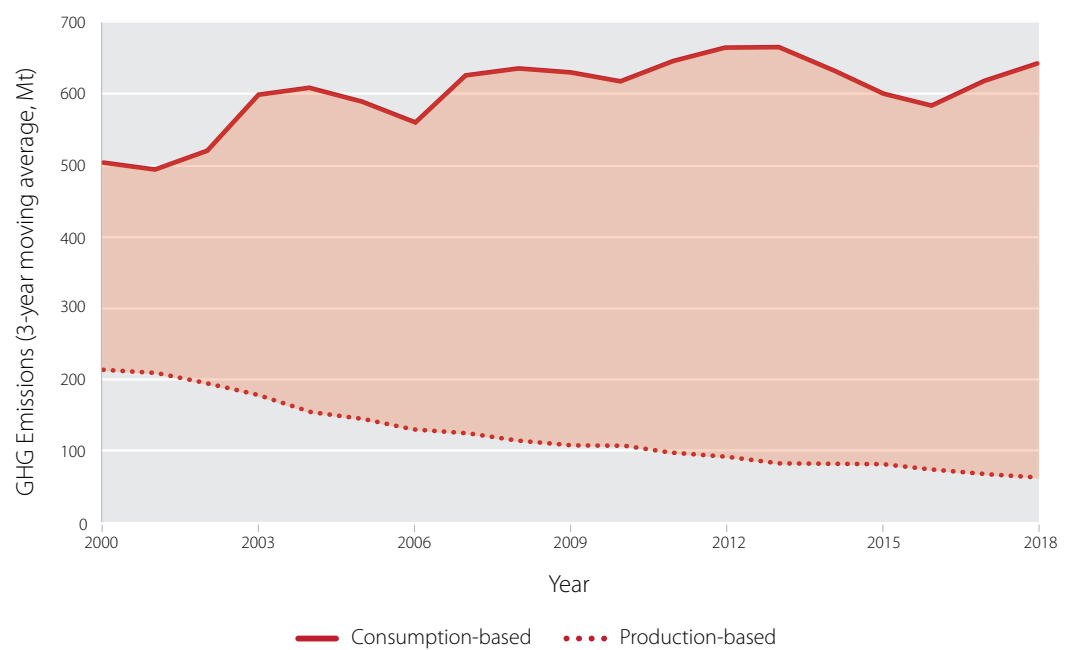
Focusing on spillovers embodied into trade, we find, for example, that 40% of the EU's greenhouse gas emissions are in fact generated abroad. The EU's consumption is responsible for 16% of tropical deforestation worldwide, according to the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). SDSN and the University of Sydney have further documented how, each year, close to 400 workers die in the production of textiles used by EU citizens (Malik et al., 2020). Biofuel mandates in Europe and other major economies have accelerated tropical deforestation and land displacement in other parts of the world. Growing demand for raw materials, notably for renewable energy and other technologies in the EU can increase GHG emissions and forced labour practices in other countries, while the shipment of waste to countries and regions

that cannot manage its disposal effectively has profound ecological and health impacts abroad, especially in South Asia.

There are no signs of structural decoupling between economic prosperity and negative spillovers. While many countries – including the US, Japan, France and Germany – have managed to decrease their domestic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in absolute and per capita terms compared with the early 2000s (though still too slowly to meet the 2030 Agenda and Paris targets), there is currently no evidence of a structural decrease in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from their imports (Lafortune et al., 2021). Increased demand for raw materials associated with the EU's renewable energy transition and other new technologies may further increase the negative impacts embodied in EU's supply chains (Malik et al., 2022). Since 2015, greenhouse gas emissions and accidents at work associated with the EU's consumption of raw minerals and mineral products have been on the rise (Figures 1.13 and 1.14). High-income countries were responsible for more than 80% of cumulative imported CO<sub>2</sub> emissions between 2010 and 2018 (Sachs et al., 2021). This is one more reason why rich countries have a historical responsibility to act and lead on international climate change efforts.

**Figure 1.13 |** Consumption-based versus production-based accidents at work in mineral supply chains

Source: Malik, Lafortune et al. 2022

**Figure 1.14 |** Consumption-based versus production-based GHG emissions in mineral supply chains

Source: Malik, Lafortune et al. 2022

## References

- Aburto, J. M., J. Schöley, I. Kashnitsky, L. Zhang, C. Rahal, T. I Missov, M. C Mills, J. B. Dowd and R. Kashyap (2021). 'Quantifying impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic through life-expectancy losses: a population-level study of 29 countries'. *International Journal of Epidemiology*, no. dyab207 (September). <https://doi.org/10.1093/ije/dyab207>.
- Bonhommeau S., L. Dubroca, O. Le Pape, J. Barde, D.M. Kaplan, E. Chassot and A.E. Nieblas (2013). 'Eating up the world's food web and the human trophic level'. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, 2013 Dec 17;110(51):20617-20, <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1305827110>.
- Eurostat (2022). *Eurostat Sustainable Development Indicators*. (2022). [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/explore/all/tb\\_eu?lang=en&subtheme=sdg&display=list&sort=category&extractionId=SDG\\_07\\_60](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/explore/all/tb_eu?lang=en&subtheme=sdg&display=list&sort=category&extractionId=SDG_07_60).
- Ino, J., F. Murtin and M. Shinwell (2021). 'Measuring transboundary impacts in the 2030 Agenda'. *OECD Papers on Well-Being and Inequalities*. <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/content/paper/62f13e92-en>.
- Lafortune, G., M. Cortés-Puch, A. Mosnier, G. Fuller, M. Díaz, A Riccaboni, A. Klope-Lesh, T. Zachariadis, E. Carli and A. Oger (2021). *Europe Sustainable Development Report 2021: Transforming the European Union to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals*. SDSN, SDSN Europe and IEEP, France: Paris, <https://www.sustainabledevelopment.report/reports/europe-sustainable-development-report-2021/>.
- Lafortune, G., Z. Wendling, R. Miller, G Schmidt-Traub, D. Esty, F.Woelm and C. Baez (2021). 'A new approach to measuring countries' impacts on the global commons based on production- and consumption-based accounting'. In OECD and Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, *Understanding the Spillovers and Transboundary Impacts of Public Policies: Implementing the 2030 Agenda for More Resilient Societies*, pp. 167–91. <https://doi.org/10.1787/862c0db7-en>.
- Lancet COVID-19 Commission (2021). 'Statement on the occasion of the G20 Leaders' Summit 2021 Meeting in Rome'. *The Lancet COVID-19 Commissioners and Commission Secretariat*. <https://covid19commission.org/commpub/statement-on-the-occasion-of-the-g20-leaders-summit-2021-meeting-in-rome>.
- Malik, A., G. Lafortune, S. Carter, L. Mengyu, M. Lenzen and C. Kroll (2021). 'International spillover effects in the EU's textile supply chains: a global SDG assessment'. *Journal of Environmental Management* 295 (October): 113037. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvman.2021.113037>.
- Malik, A., G. Lafortune, C. J. Mora, S. Carter and M. Lenzen (2022). 'International spillovers embodied in EU's supply chains: tracking forced labour, accidents at work and climate impacts in EU's consumption of fossil and mineral raw materials EU's consumption of fossil and mineral raw materials'. SDSN, University of Sydney and GIZ Policy Brief. France: Paris.
- OECD (2021). *Health at a Glance 2021: OECD Indicators*. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, OECD Publishing, Paris. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/health-at-a-glance-2021\\_ae3016b9-en?ga=2.74209874.1716868534.1636967320-1804275954.1586505917](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/health-at-a-glance-2021_ae3016b9-en?ga=2.74209874.1716868534.1636967320-1804275954.1586505917).
- Papadimitriou, Eleni, Ana Fragoso Neves, and William Edward Becker (2019). *JRC Statistical Audit of the Sustainable Development Goals Index and Dashboards*. European Commission. <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/publication/jrc-statistical-audit-sustainable-development-goals-index-and-dashboards>.
- Sachs, J., C. Kroll, G. Lafortune, G. Fuller and F. Woelm (2022). *Sustainable Development Report 2022: From Crisis to Sustainable Development, the SDGs as Roadmap to 2030 and Beyond*. Cambridge University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009210058>, <https://www.sdgindex.org/reports/sustainable-development-report-2022/>
- Schmidt-Traub, G., C. Kroll, K. Teksoz, D. Durand-Delacre and J. D. Sachs (2017). 'National baselines for the sustainable development goals assessed in the SDG Index and Dashboards'. *Nature Geoscience* 10 (8): 547–55. <https://doi.org/10.1038/ngeo2985>.
- SDSN, Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy, and the Center for Global Commons at the University of Tokyo (2020). *Global Commons Stewardship Index (Pilot Version)*. Paris; New Haven, CT; and Tokyo.
- von der Leyen, U (2019). *A union that strives for more: my agenda for Europe. Political guidelines for the next European commission 2019–2024*. European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication, Brussels.



## **Priorities to Restore and Accelerate SDG Progress in Europe and Globally**

## Part 2.

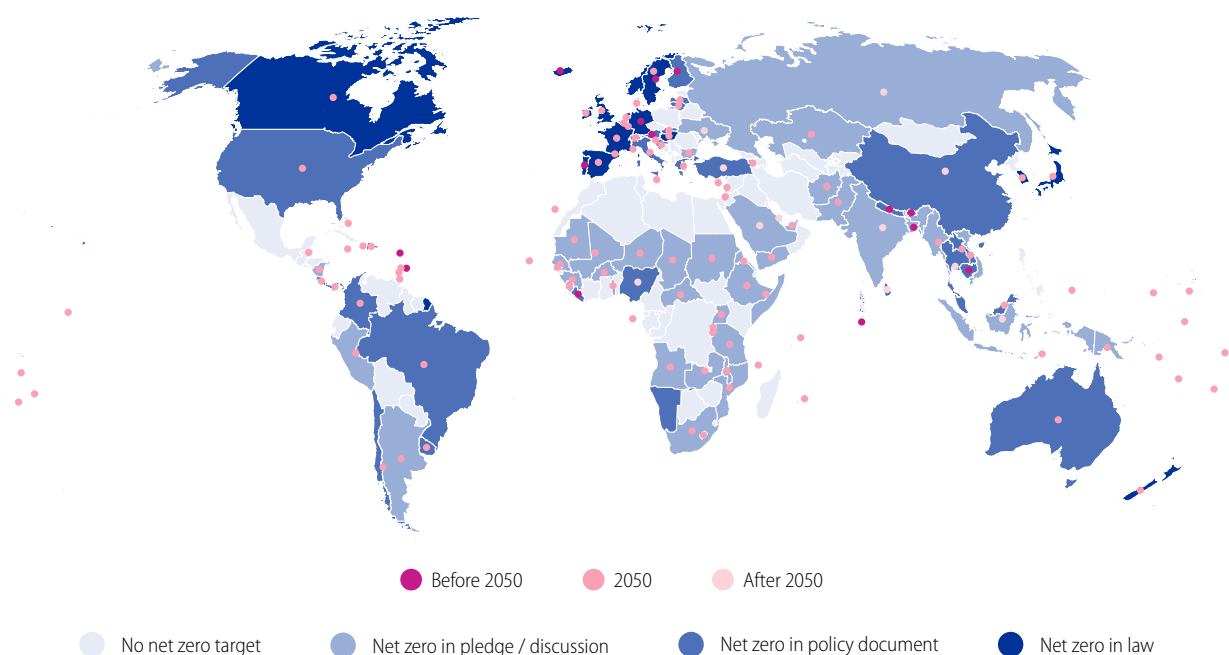
# Priorities to Restore and Accelerate SDG Progress in Europe and Globally

The EU, its institutions and member states played a key role in the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the SDGs and the Paris Climate Agreement. From the outset, the EU and its member states led the call for an integrated, universal agenda that would build upon the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro (2012) while continuing the focus of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) on ending extreme poverty in all its forms, adding critical issues of environmental sustainability, social inclusion, economic development and governance challenges (European Commission, 2015). Article 11 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union stipulates that 'Environmental protection requirements must be integrated into the definition and implementation of the Union's policies and activities, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development' (European Union, 2007). The SDGs are an expression of both European and global values of solidarity, equality, human dignity and the rule of law (among others).

The President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, showed remarkable commitment to the SDGs when taking office in 2019. The Commission has since published a Reflection Paper (European Commission,

2019) and Staff Working Document (European Commission, 2020) on the goals. With the launch of the European Green Deal in 2019, Europe became the first continent to commit to achieving climate neutrality by mid-century, and three years

**Figure 2.1 |** Overview of net zero targets by country and target year



later, 129 countries have established net-zero climate targets, representing 88% of current total greenhouse gas emissions (Figure 2.1). It is becoming very difficult for countries to show up at international summits and conferences without a net-zero target. This speaks to the EU's capacity to steer the rest of the world towards raising SDG and climate ambitions.

The SDGs have been integrated into various EU policy processes – notably the European Semester (the lead process for macroeconomic coordination) and the Better Regulation policy. In addition, other EU organisations such as Eurostat, the EEA and the JRC have been mobilized to review and track progress towards the Goals. Besides the European Commission, both the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament have repeatedly stressed their commitment to the SDGs. All 27 EU member states have presented at least one voluntary national review to the United Nations, and in 2023 the first EU-wide voluntary national review will be presented.

Yet the EU still lacks clarity on how it plans to achieve the SDGs. In June 2022, the European Parliament published a resolution calling for the Commission to adopt a new high-level EU 2030 Agenda implementation strategy (European Parliament, 2022a). While the Green Deal covers the climate and biodiversity dimensions of the SDGs quite well, it focuses less on social dimensions. In its annual SDG report, Eurostat has identified politically agreed targets for only 22 of 101 indicators, primarily focusing on climate change, energy consumption, employment and education – leaving major SDG indicators lacking agreed EU targets. An initial mapping of the nine Green Deal pillars against the SDGs found, as was expected, stronger linkages to climate and biodiversity SDGs (SDGs 12 through 15) than to socio-economic goals, notably SDG 5 (Gender equality) (Koundouri and Sachs, 2021). Using text mining and deep-learning techniques, a review of 22 major European Commission policy documents published since the European Green Deal was approved in 2020 – including

the climate law and circular economy action plan as well as the smart mobility and 'farm to fork' strategies – found that only limited focus was given to SDG 1 (No poverty), SDG 4 (Quality education) and SDG 5 (Gender equality) (Koundouri et al., 2022). In its recent report on the performance of the EU budget, the European Court of Auditors found that out of the EU's five horizontal policy priorities (climate, biodiversity, gender, SDGs, and digital) the SDGs, although referred to in all programmes, were the least mentioned objective, after gender. With climate, biodiversity and gender being core SDG issues by themselves, also this result speaks to the lesser recognition of the social dimension of the SDGs in EU policies (European Court of Auditors 2022).

As emphasized by the SDSN, the European Parliament and other organizations, the EU needs to develop an integrated and comprehensive approach to implementing the SDGs and must communicate clearly on them. It can build on the 2020 Staff Working Document and the Council of the EU Conclusions published on 22 June 2021. The SDGs can be the right compass to reduce the complexity of EU's policies and instruments for sustainable development and engage with citizen and scientists to define pathways at various levels. The concept of key SDG transformations can help provide a more operational narrative and pathway to achieve the SDGs. SDSN and partners have identified Six Transformations that the EU needs to implement in parallel to achieve the SDGs. Some of these transformations are well covered in the European Green Deal, others are covered at least partly in other policy documents. Put together and amended, these transformations could form the core of an EU SDG implementation strategy around which policy action can be organized.

## 2.1 Internal Priorities: Six SDG Transformations

As underlined by the SDSN for some years, the SDG transformations concept can help provide a narrative that is operational and

**Box 3. Six SDG Transformations for Europe**

The 17 SDGs and their 169 targets describe goals to be achieved by 2030, but they do not identify how the EU and its member states might organize themselves to achieve these targets. Several groups have proposed broadly consistent sets of six transformations that together could achieve the SDGs. These include The World in 2050 (TWI2050, 2018), Sachs et al. (2019), and the UN independent group of scientists, appointed by the Secretary-General (2019). At member states level, Germany is working with a similar set of six transformations and has established an inter-ministerial 'transformations team' as part of its efforts to implement the SDGs.

In the 2020 *Europe Sustainable Development Report* we proposed six 'SDG Transformations' that align well with the EU's signature policy initiatives including the Green Deal. These six SDG Transformations can help the EU map out an operational strategy that addresses key synergies and trade-offs and reduces complexity by focusing on these six priority areas, supporting stakeholder engagement around each transformation. These Transformations are important tools for strengthening policy coherence across EU instruments and among member states.

The six Transformations are presented below, along with their links to the eight 'transformative policies' of the European Green Deal.

- 1. Education, Skills, Decent Work, and Innovation:** Ensure top-quality education, including lifelong learning, for all Europeans and strengthen innovation in strategic technologies and industries. [Partly covered in EGD 2.2.3]
- 2. Sustainable Energy:** Promote energy efficiency, achieve zero-carbon power generation, decarbonise industry and create new jobs. [Covered by EGD 2.1.1 and 2.1.2]
- 3. Sustainable Communities, Mobility and Housing:** Strengthen cities and other communities by promoting sustainable and smart mobility, renovating housing, ensuring sustainable building standards and supporting new jobs. [Partly covered by EGD 2.1.4 and 2.1.5]
- 4. Sustainable Food Production, Healthy Diets, and Biodiversity Protection:** Ensure sustainable agriculture and ocean use, promote healthier diets and behaviours, and protect and restore biodiversity and ecosystems with decent incomes for farmers and fishermen. [Covered by EGD 2.1.6 and 2.1.7]
- 5. Clean and Circular Economy with Zero Pollution:** Curb pollution, reduce material consumption and minimise the environmental impact of European industry and consumers. [Covered by EGD 2.1.3 and 2.1.8]
- 6. The Digital Transformation:** Build cutting-edge digital infrastructure, strengthen innovation, and protect citizen's rights to their data and European democracy. [Not covered by EGD]

While public health remains primarily the responsibility of individual member states (which is why 'health' is not included within the proposed six SDG transformations), measures adopted in the MFF and EU4Health work program should strengthen the European Health Union and its ability to complement national health policies. The Recovery and Resilience Facility targets an estimated €40 billion to health actions, including towards workforce training and accelerating the digitization of health systems.



easy to communicate, build on synergies and trade-offs across goals and targets (Sachs et al., 2019). Prior editions of the *Europe Sustainable Development Report* have proposed six SDG transformations for Europe (Box 3). Some of these are addressed, or partly addressed, by the European Green Deal, while others may be covered through different policy documents (SDSN and IEEP, 2020). The social and economic SDGs also need clear targets and milestones. The 2030 target of reducing the number of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion by at least 15 million goes in the right direction, and the same applies to recent targets adopted to boost skills and employment in the EU.

At the member states level, in autumn 2022, Germany announced its creation of inter-ministerial transformation teams to accelerate SDG implementation. This strategy is structured around six transformations and five policy levers, including international partnerships and cooperation, (Federal Government of Germany, 2022). The approach explicitly builds inter alia on the framework proposed by the SDSN.

Previous editions of the *Europe Sustainable Development Report* have detailed key priorities and tools that could be leveraged to advance each of these six SDG Transformations. In the following section we briefly present the main objectives of each transformation and consider how short-term and long-term actions might be reconciled. We also explore potential opportunities to leapfrog on shifting narratives and rising awareness (about the need to accelerate the energy transition, for instance).

In Part 3, ten experts share their views on priorities to advance the six SDG Transformations.



### Transformation 1. 'Education, skills, decent work, and innovation

To achieve the SDGs, the EU needs to ensure top-quality education, including lifelong learning, for all Europeans and strengthen innovation in strategic technologies and industries. EU countries must increase investments in innovation, educational quality and the development of skills for lifelong learning, including digital skills for all. Critical instruments include the European Education Area, Horizon Europe, and the Green Deal EU missions. This Transformation is only partly covered in EGD 2.2.3 ("Mobilising research and fostering innovation"), however other policy instruments including the European Education Area aim to advance this transformation at the EU level.

Transformation 1 is important to build public support and strengthen the EU's resilience. In a context of high inflation and rising interest rates, as well as likely recession in many European countries in 2023, particular attention must be given to addressing inequalities within European countries, and to targeting the most vulnerable while boosting education and skills for sustainable development.

The 'leave no one behind' (LNOB) Index presented in this report reveals that vulnerable groups are being disproportionately affected by multiple crises, which has increased poverty in some European countries. The LNOB Index shows persisting gaps in access to and quality of key services within and across countries, especially in relation to education systems. In addition to gaps in access to pre-primary education and lifelong learning, there are also gaps in learning outcomes in maths and science across EU member states and within countries, with worse performance linked to lower socioeconomic status. According to major international studies, few 15-year-old students are able to make the distinction between a fact and an opinion – less than 10% in France, for instance (OECD, 2019). These are problematic challenges, especially as STEM education is key

for the twin green and digital transformations. The ability to navigate an information-rich environment is crucial for sustainable development and peace to flourish in a post-truth, social-media era. The effective functioning of Europe's democracies and institutions, which are at the core of the sustainable development transition, depends on their capacity to provide equal opportunities and boost education and skills for all.



### Transformation 2. Sustainable Energy

The EU should double down on efforts to decarbonise industry, boost energy efficiency, achieve zero-carbon power generation, and create new jobs. A central pillar of the Green Deal, sustainable energy actions focus on mobility, buildings and industry, and decarbonizing power generation and transmission. The bulk of the decarbonization will result from a mix of energy-efficiency measures and smart grids that use clean, zero-carbon fuels. Success will require clear trajectories and roadmaps, as is recognized by the European Climate Law. This Transformation is *very well* covered by the EGD.

To a large extent, the EU's responses to recent crises have clarified the way forward on Transformation 2: accelerate the European Green Deal through a massive scale-up of renewable energy and integrated, digital power grids. Together, the Green Deal and the European Climate Law have established a clear pathway towards decarbonizing the Union's energy system: cut greenhouse gas emissions by 55% by 2030 (and even 57% as announced during COP 27) and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. The energy crisis is largely due to increased fossil fuel prices and supply bottlenecks, which makes it crucial that Europe doubles down on its investments in renewable energy (mainly solar, wind, geothermal and hydropower) and energy efficiency measures, as highlighted in the Commission's REPowerEU Plan.

According to the European Environment Agency (EEA), the prospects of meeting the EU target of 32% renewable energy by 2030 remain uncertain (Figure 2.2). There are persisting differences across EU member states in the uptake of renewable energy (Figure 2.3). Yet the European Commission has in fact proposed amending the Renewable Energy Directive and raising the 2030 target to 40%, towards achieving climate neutrality by 2050 (EEA, 2022). Interestingly, in the face of the current energy crisis, even fragmented institutions and parliaments have managed to reach consensus on the need to double down on efforts to roll out renewable energy (Time News, 2022).

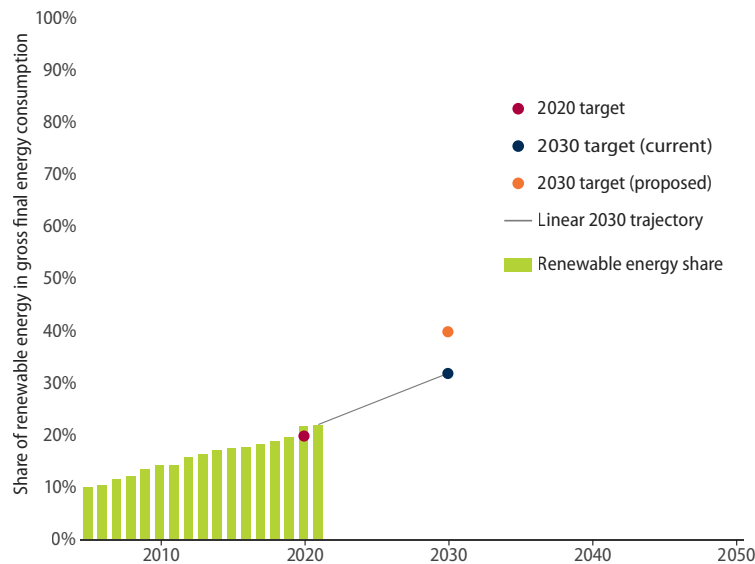
Collective borrowing to finance the Recovery and Resilience Facility in response to COVID-19, along with the EU-wide vaccine strategy, demonstrated that the EU and its member states can work together and act decisively to boost their resilience. The EU action plan to digitize its energy system (presented by the European Commission in October 2022) and its strong support for other energy transition initiatives focusing on introducing integrated and smart grids throughout the EU are welcome steps (European Commission, 2022). A mix of different types of renewable energy combined with integrated and digital power grids can support a clean, efficient and reliable energy transformation in the EU – one that addresses the base-load issue and promotes the Union's strategic interests and security. Measures that delay or go against decarbonization of the energy system in the EU weaken its position internationally and, possibly, hamper global efforts to achieve the SDGs and meet the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement.



### Transformation 3. Sustainable communities, mobility and housing

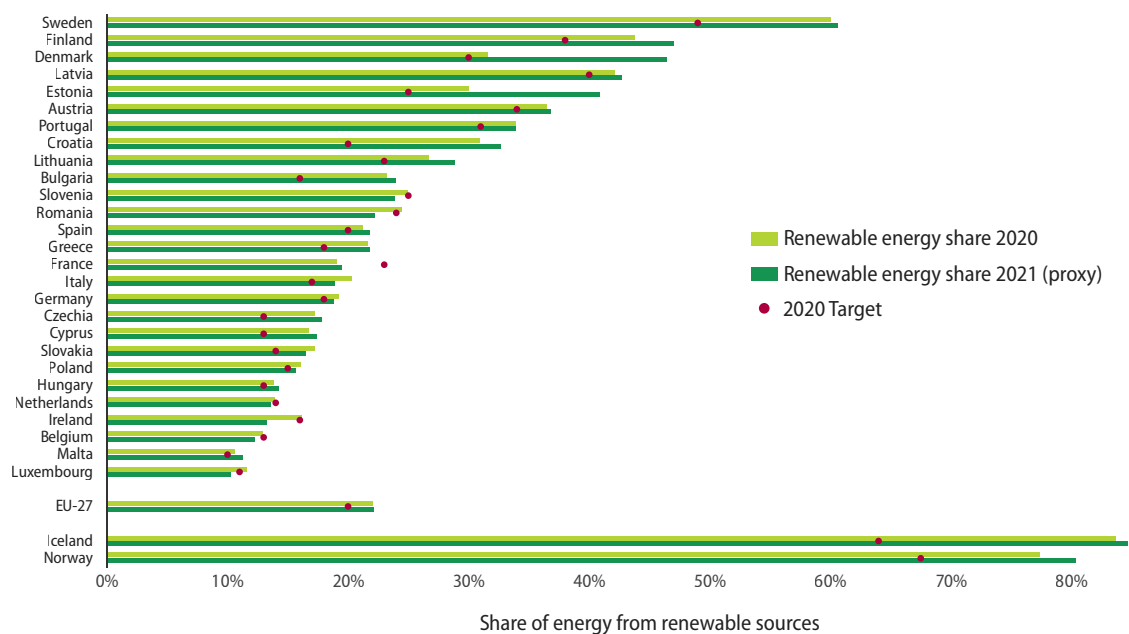
This Transformation emphasizes the importance of strengthening cities and other communities by promoting sustainable and smart mobility,

Figure 2.2 | Progress towards renewable energy source targets for EU-27



Source: European Environment Agency (EEA), 2022

Figure 2.3 | Progress towards renewable energy source targets, by country



Source: European Environment Agency (EEA), 2022

renovating housing, ensuring sustainable building standards and supporting new jobs. The SDGs and the objectives of the European Green Deal both have a strong territorial dimension. Communities across Europe – be they large metropolises, cities, small towns, villages or rural settlements – all need to become more liveable and require sustainable mobility and housing. The role of subnational entities, including cities and regions, is crucial to achieving the SDGs and ensuring a fair transition. Stakeholder engagement and consultation processes at the subnational level can support the development of effective solutions and transformations and greater adherence by populations. This Transformation is *partly* covered by the EGD.

Building smart, inclusive and green cities requires managing important trade-offs: spatial planning that considers both the core city and its neighbouring municipalities is key to boosting sustainable mobility and housing. For many years, the OECD and the European Committee of the Regions (CoR), in partnership with regional and local leaders, have leveraged the SDGs as a tool to address short- and long-term policy challenges at the subnational level. The recent OECD-CoR survey found that 40% of the cities and regions surveyed used the SDGs for policymaking before the pandemic and for the COVID-19 recovery. Cities are notably at the centre of two important SDG targets: mobility and housing. Promoting sustainable mobility and low-carbon transport – by introducing congestion charges to reduce car dependence, for instance – requires careful assessment of the impacts such policies might have on the most vulnerable, and requires that accessible, quality and affordable public transport alternatives are in place. In most advanced economies, households spend from a tenth to a third of their disposable income on housing. Constructing sustainable homes based on waste recycling, sharing the costs of building social housing with real-estate developers, revising building codes and urban and regional spatial development regulations are just some of the tools that urban and regional planners can leverage to achieve long-term sustainable

urbanisation and land use. Bonn (Germany) and the region of Flanders (Belgium) provide good examples of how major mobility and housing trade-offs have been addressed at the subnational level.



#### Transformation 4. Sustainable Food Production, Healthy Diets, and Biodiversity Protection

This Transformation calls for sustainable agriculture and ocean use, healthier diets and behaviours, and to protect and restore biodiversity and ecosystems with decent incomes for farmers and fishermen. The EU's 'farm-to-fork' strategy recognizes that sustainable food production, healthy diets and biodiversity protection can only be addressed together. Siloed policies and instruments will not succeed. This transformation covers the EU's common agricultural policy, the goal of assuring healthy food for all, the common fisheries policy, the biodiversity strategy, the EU forest strategy, and the promotion of reductions in greenhouse-gas emissions. It includes building resilience through the European Climate Law; developing a 'long-term vision for rural areas' through the proposed Rural Pact and Rural Action Plan supported by a zero-pollution action plan for water, air and soil; and assuring deforestation-free value chains. This is covered by EGD 2.1.6 and 2.1.7 and addressed through many other policy instruments. Last year's Europe Sustainable Development Report included a dedicated chapter which discussed progress and challenges in implementing major transformations of food and land systems in the EU (Lafortune et al., 2021).

The transformation of food and land systems in the EU is probably the most complex of all transformations, but the implementation of policies and instruments that have already been adopted should not be delayed because of geopolitical tensions. Food systems are responsible for about a third of global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions,

and they generate other major climate and biodiversity impacts as well (Crippa et al., 2021). Current diets are a major driver of rising healthcare costs in the EU, through rising obesity rates and chronic conditions (FABLE, 2021). To achieve the SDGs the EU must move forward with implementing its ambitious supply- and demand-side measures to transform food systems and diets. The EU has adopted a package of ambitious policies to transform its food system – notably via the Green Deal and its farm-to-fork and biodiversity strategies – and will likely soon adopt a nature restoration law. To the extent possible, derogations to respond to the consequences of the war in Ukraine and increased food prices should be temporary (including those adopted in July 2022 on crop rotation and the maintenance of non-productive features on arable land). National Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) strategic plans should align with the EU's biodiversity and sustainability targets. According to Birdlife Europe and the European Environmental Bureau, however, CAP strategic plans alone are unlikely to achieve the EU biodiversity target of 10% of EU land being under strict protection, notably due to insufficient protection of wetlands and peatlands (EEB, 2022)

The Parliament and Council's adoption of the EU Due Diligence Regulation and its transposal into national law should help make large companies operating in the EU more accountable for negative impacts generated through food and other supply chains. SMEs and farmers need support to learn the 'grammar' of sustainability and to integrate sustainability principles at the management level. An EU-wide front-of-pack nutrition labelling scheme could also help address both excesses and deficiencies in EU diets. Finally, the EU must curb its exports of toxic pesticides (which damage health and soils abroad), involve farmers from developing countries in regulatory processes, and mitigate global food insecurity and shortages (especially in Africa) by developing alternative overland routes that Ukraine can use to export its agricultural products.

Finding ways to better measure the economic value of European natural capital is also an important priority. Traditional measures such as GDP fail to capture natural benefits like pollination, regulation, and nature's ability to mitigate disasters. This inability to account for the total economic value of ecosystems, added to the vicious cycle of overproduction and overexploitation, has led to the degradation of ecosystem services, jeopardizing current and future growth and prosperity (see the contribution by Phoebe Koundouri in Part 3 of the present report). Natural capital should not only be addressed in policy decisions but should also be a crucial factor in financial decisions and the appraisal of private-sector investments and environmental, social and governance (ESG) strategies. To reverse or prevent further degradation, incorporating the economic value of ecosystem services into mainstream public and private decision-making is pivotal.

The next revision to the Systems of National Accounts (SNA) rules – used to calculate GDP – is due by 2025. It is to be hoped that it can better reflect the value of natural capital and other SDGs (Masood, 2022). (SNA revisions are published only once every 15 years, which makes 2025 an important milestone.) UNECE and other European groups of experts on national accounts can play an important role. Eurostat's 'environmental accounts', compiled to complement traditional national accounts, are already an advanced tool to measure the interaction between economic, household and environmental factors (Eurostat, 2021).



### Transformation 5. Clean and circular economy with zero pollution

This Transformation requires curbing pollution, reducing material consumption, and minimizing the environmental impact of European industry and consumers. The 'circular economy action plan' makes it clear that the use of materials such as

biomass, fossil fuels, metals and minerals, along with associated water generation, is projected to continue to increase in the EU in the short term. The ecological impact of material extraction depends on the local context of extraction, the type of materials extracted, and the technologies used. The action plan emphasizes the need for faster action, with a particular focus on key product value chains (electronics and ICT, batteries and vehicles, packaging, plastics and textiles, buildings and construction, along with food, water and nutrients). These efforts must integrate with the Green Deal's 'zero-pollution vision for a toxic-free environment'. This transformation is well covered by the EGD.

Geopolitical tensions, disrupted supply chains and rising inflation in Europe and other regions have recalibrated public debate in this area, which was until recently overwhelmingly dominated by production-side measures aimed at improving energy efficiency.

In her State of the Union address on 14 September 2022, Ursula von der Leyen spoke forcefully of the need to develop 'measures for member states to reduce their overall electricity consumption' (von der Leyen, 2022), echoing French President Emmanuel Macron's repeated calls for 'sobriété énergétique' ('energy sobriety'). On 6 October, France unveiled an action plan to cut its energy consumption by 10% over two years, while Sweden has announced its intention to become the first country in the world to set a target on consumption-based emissions – pollution generated overseas to make products for import (Morgan, 2022). Overall, 40% of the EU's total CO<sub>2</sub> footprint is generated abroad.

Transitioning towards more responsible consumption and the circular economy (including recycling electronic waste) can help the EU to reduce its global footprint embodied in its supply chains (mineral, food, construction and other). More EU-wide consumption-based targets might be needed alongside ambitious instruments to track and curb negative spillovers embodied in trade. Innovation – for instance, in clean

hydrogen and energy storage – may also help reduce the consumption footprint of raw material extraction and other industries.



### Transformation 6. The Digital Transformation

To achieve the SDGs, the EU must invest in cutting-edge digital infrastructure, strengthen innovation, and protect European democracy and its citizen's rights to their data. The EU and European companies must become leaders in the digital revolution if the region is to maintain its high living standards. As emphasized in the Recovery and Resilience Facility, this will require substantial investments in technology innovation and digital infrastructure. The Commission has identified critical needs, but more specificity and more ambitious targets will be required to realise the Digital Transformation, compete internationally in the digital era, promote sustainable digitization and protect EU citizens. This Transformation is not covered in the EGD, but is covered in other EU policies including the strategy adopted in 2020 for "Shaping Europe's Digital Future".

The Recovery and Resilience Facility rightly recognizes the importance of the digital revolution. Each national RRF plan must devote a minimum of 20% of expenditure to the digital transformation. We live in an era of unprecedented and accelerating innovation, particularly in digital technologies such as artificial intelligence, bioinformatics, big data, quantum computing, novel communication technologies, new platform business models or low-cost remote sensing. These hold the potential to combine prosperity with low environmental impacts: through smart grids, car-sharing, 3D printing, blockchain, dematerialization, home offices and new circular economy models. Currently, however, US and Chinese technology companies dominate many aspects of the digital transformation. Europe's Digital Decade and Compass, presented in March 2021, include targets to be achieved by 2030 on digital skills, connectivity, the production

of semi-conductors, quantum computing, edge and cloud, as well as e-health and digital identity. These need to be rolled out across all member states to boost convergence in productivity and living standards. New technologies, R&D and innovation can help the EU increase its strategic autonomy and achieve sustainable development. While the comprehensiveness and comparability of international R&D budgets remains a challenge, according to the OECD, the total expenditure (current and capital) on R&D carried out by all companies, research institutes, university and government laboratories in the EU is well below the levels achieved in the United States and China (OECD, 2022a).

New technologies can also exacerbate inequalities, harm political systems and social cohesion, and undermine governments' abilities to mobilize tax revenues. The EU can build on its global leadership in setting rules for the digital transformation, including the General Data Protection Regulation. With the rise of cybersecurity threats, the EU's Network and Information Security Directive (NIS2) must be updated and expanded: the EU should move to a far more pro-active approach to preventing and responding to cybersecurity threats and attacks, including on important public infrastructure. The Digital Markets Act and Digital Services Act also aim to provide a safer digital space and combat online misinformation. During its Presidency of the EU Council, Czechia rightly emphasized the need for a multilateral agreement on digital taxation which would include the United States. The Internet is responsible for up to 3.8% of global greenhouse gases, and the data centres that house hardware and software to run cloud applications worldwide consume as much as 2% of global energy demand. Digital technologies also pose other environmental impacts, such as their water use and e-waste. These impacts must be curbed to achieve sustainable digitization. Further work is also needed to better understand the full distributive impacts of sharing technologies, e-commerce models, AI, crypto currencies and blockchain, as well as their impacts on the future of work and future social models and policies.

## 2.2 Green Deal/SDG Diplomacy

The SDGs express European values of social market economy and environmental sustainability. Promoting them internationally should be a key pillar of European diplomacy and international partnerships. In an increasingly multipolar world, where multilateralism is under unprecedented pressure, European partnership, diplomacy and soft power will be vital to uphold the values incorporated in the SDGs. Without the EU's leadership, the SDGs cannot be achieved. New frameworks for sustainable development finance and new forms of global partnerships, that work across and beyond North and South in an increasingly reciprocal way and that include technology and knowledge transfers, are crucial for concerted SDG actions and to strengthen multilateralism.

As shown in previous editions of the Europe SDR, Green Deal/SDG Diplomacy should be organized around five key dimensions: 1) EU leadership for the SDGs in the international conventions (including UNFCCC and CBD); 2) the EU's SDG leadership in multilateral forums (UNGA, HLPF, G7, G20); 3) bilateral forums with key partners (trade agreements and relationships of particular importance with the African Union, China and the US, among others); 4) Large international infrastructure and investment projects for sustainable development (including EU's Global Gateway, the US Build Back Better World, and China's Belt and Road Initiatives); and 5) EU regulatory leadership (cooperating with other countries on regulatory standards in support of the SDGs).

As emphasized at UNGA in September 2022 and at COP27 in November 2022, the global dialogue must be strengthened by addressing injustices related to climate change vulnerability and boosting SDG financing. Globally, \$17 trillion was mobilized for COVID-19 recovery efforts, primarily in rich countries (Beyer et al. 2021). Meanwhile low-income countries and lower-middle-income countries (LICs and LMICs) face major fiscal-space issues due to their limited



or non-existent access to markets. As demonstrated by the massive floods in Pakistan in 2022, these countries are also increasingly being affected by the effects of climate change. Poor countries and emerging markets will be hit hard by macroeconomic policies in the U.S. and other advanced economies. The need to scale-up and identify better ways to finance the human capital and physical infrastructure required to achieve the SDGs and to identify financing flows and mechanisms to address climate injustice is increasingly being recognized by world leaders at international summits and conferences.

The EU and its member states must lead international efforts to finance the SDGs globally in the run up to the Heads of States Summit in 2023 and the 2024 Summit of the Future. In one step in the right direction, at COP 27 in November this year, President Macron of France and Prime Minister Mottley of Barbados launched the formation of a 'high-level group of wise minds', tasked with developing proposals (by spring 2023) for innovative financing solutions that could reform the international financial system to better address the impacts of climate change. Debt relief, Increased taxes on fossil fuels and a dedicated 'global climate impact fund' to cover adaptation costs and the costs of losses and damages in the Global South should all be on the table (J. D. Sachs et al., 2022). While some, albeit not all, European countries have delivered their share to the \$100 billion that rich countries promised in 2009 to finance climate actions in developing countries, this has not been the case for other major advanced economies: including Australia, Canada and the United States (Colenbrander et al., 2022). The EU and member states should champion these discussions on climate justice and the SDG Stimulus, bringing these up systematically in multilateral and bilateral exchanges, including in the G20.

The Council's conclusions on climate finance, adopted on 4 October 2022, stress the need to scale up climate support for developing countries, notably via the deliberations on the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate

Finance taking place until 2024. They specifically highlight 'the importance of integrating climate action within the broader development planning and national financing frameworks of recipient countries, in support of the achievement of specific national targets related to Sustainable Development Goals'. The new EU High Level Expert Group on scaling up sustainable finance in low- and middle-income countries, established earlier this year, can help identify private financing flows to support the external dimension of the Green Deal and a green, just and resilient recovery in partner countries. Their conclusions are also expected by spring 2023, in time for the SDG Summit.

In general, multilateral development banks (MDBs) – including the World Bank, the European Investment Bank and other regional banks – can support long-term investments in developing countries. The European Investment Bank (one of the largest MDBs) has already developed a methodology to track and report the SDG impact of its projects (EIB, 2022). By borrowing large sums from international capital markets at reasonable rates, MDBs can expand lending to developing countries on favourable terms (long maturities with low interest rates) (Sachs et al. 2022). The G20 must work with the MDBs on strategies to increase their lending capacities and annual flows, which will mainly involve providing more paid-in capital, but could include increasing the leverage of their balance sheets.

Large infrastructure projects led by the EU (such as the Global Gateway), the US (Build Back Better World) and China (Belt and Road initiative) should work together to support access to digital infrastructure and cleaner energy and production systems in Africa and around the world. Rather than perceiving multipolarity as a threat, Europe should value it as an opportunity. New EU partnerships with Kazakhstan, Egypt and Namibia on renewable hydrogen, established at COP27 as part of the Global Gateway programme, may demonstrate the value of these new forms of alliances for sustainable development.



Early lessons, notably from the Just Energy Transition Partnership between South Africa and Germany, France, the United Kingdom, the United States and the EU (launched in 2021 at COP26 in Glasgow), suggest that the success of such pledges to support difficult transitions abroad may depend on the scale and type of financing mobilized (grants versus loans) and on policy coherence ("reciprocity") within the EU: so that the EU is not perceived as 'offering a pill it doesn't want to swallow'<sup>1</sup>. This emphasizes the importance for the success of SDG/Green Deal Diplomacy of not delaying implementation of the Green Deal in the EU.

The EU must lead on multilateral Green Deal and SDG Diplomacy, collaborating with Brazil, China and India as well as Africa, notably within the G20. But global alliances around the SDGs will be stillborn if they are forged solely from within the EU and G7. Instead, the EU and its member states should work together to strengthen and reform more diverse and universal formats, such as the G20 and the UN. As members of both the G20 and the G7, the EU, France, Germany and Italy should form a dedicated 'Team Europe for the SDGs' that can work closely with the incoming presidencies of both groups to get the SDG agenda back on track (2023, G20 India and G7 Japan; 2024, G20 Brazil and G7 Italy; 2025, G20 South Africa and G7 Canada). The recent commitments by the G20 Summit in Bali, Indonesia in November 2022 to achieve and finance the SDGs provide a good starting point for concrete and jointly designed next steps. Ensuring adequate representation of developing countries, including in Africa, at the G20 should remain a priority. The EU should join others in proposing and pushing through a full membership of the African Union in the G20, turning it into a G21. Open dialogue and collaboration with China in areas ranging from the production and distribution of medical

supplies and vaccines to infrastructure projects in Eurasia or cooperation in Africa will be critical. For demographic and economic reasons, but also to achieve global climate objectives, strengthening the alliance with India is also of utmost importance, notably via the adoption of a free-trade agreement in 2023. The same applies to Brazil, especially after the results of its recent federal election, where there will be a necessary focus on saving the Amazon rainforest and progressing on the ratification of the EU-MERCOSUR trade agreement. Finally, the EU must also play a significant role both in the development of a global pandemic treaty and at the 2023 pandemic and universal health coverage summit, building on lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic to better prevent and respond to future pandemics, notably via One Health approaches.

### 2.3 International spillovers and policy coherence

To maintain its international legitimacy and credibility the EU must lead efforts to restore and protect the global commons and address negative international spillovers. The International Spillover Index presented in Part 1 underlines the negative impacts generated by EU countries, and other rich countries, through unsustainable supply chains and illicit financial flows.

In its June 2022 SDG resolution, the European Parliament pointed out that 'many EU internal policies not only contribute to the implementation of the SDGs, but also have a very high ecological, social and economic spillover impact on developing countries and vulnerable groups and populations'. It called on the European Commission to prepare a communication on policy coherence before the end of its mandate, to include quantitative and qualitative indicators (European Parliament, 2022b).

Deglobalization and protectionism would be a profoundly counterproductive response to curb negative spillovers embodied in trade and

1. Exact quote by Tiro Tamenti, General Manager of New Vaal colliery, as published in the Financial Times (03.11.2022): 'Are you offering pills that you don't want to swallow yourself?.'

consumption. Trade is a significant source of income and employment in low- and middle-income countries, and deglobalization is inflationary. A sound, ambitious global response should build on partnerships and prioritize concerted efforts, led by rich countries and the G20, to improve living standards in poorer countries and invest in clean technologies and infrastructure to achieve the SDGs and climate goals (as discussed in section 2.2).

Besides international partnerships, the EU needs a coherent package of policies to curb negative consumption-based spillovers, supported by a clear communication strategy. Measures and policies to strengthen sustainability in EU trade agreements and corporate due diligence should be part of this package – notably through the recently adopted Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and the forthcoming EU Due Diligence Regulation. Public management practices and procedures, particularly public procurement and regulatory impact assessments, should also be leveraged to prevent unintended consequences of domestic policies. If well designed, carbon border adjustment mechanisms and import bans – like the one adopted by the EU in September 2022 to tackle imported deforestation – may also help. Consumption-based targets, diet and energy efficiency measures, and innovation can help curb spillovers in the food, minerals and other supply chains. All of these measures must be supported by strong enforcement mechanisms and comprehensive data systems at EU, national, industry and corporate levels. We commend Eurostat for including a full chapter on spillovers and transboundary impacts in its annual SDG monitoring report.

By communicating clearly on the package of financial and policy levers mobilized to curb negative spillovers, and by not delaying implementation of the Green Deal at home, the EU can invest in its SDG credibility, increase its steering effect for sustainable development, and rally other countries around its foundational values.

## References

- Beyer, J., et al. (2021). 'Majority of \$17.2 trillion covid stimulus packages 'doing more harm than good' to environment'. NatureFinance. <https://www.naturefinance.net/majority-of-17-2-trillion-covid-stimulus-packages-doing-more-harm-than-good-to-environment/>.
- Colenbrander, S., L. Pettinotti and Yue Cao (2022). 'A fair share of climate finance? An appraisal of past performance, future pledges and prospective contributors'. ODI working paper. London: ODI. <https://odi.org/en/publications/a-fair-share-of-climate-finance-an-appraisal-of-past-performance-future-pledges-and-prospective-contributors/>.
- Crippa, M., E. Solazzo, D. Guizzardi, F. Monforti-Ferrario, F. N. Tubiello and A. Leip (2021). 'Food systems are responsible for a third of global anthropogenic GHG emissions'. *Nature Food* 2 (3): 198-209. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s43016-021-00225-9>.
- EEA (2022). 'Share of energy consumption from renewable sources in Europe'. European Environment Agency, <https://www.eea.europa.eu/ims/share-of-energy-consumption-from#:~:text=Furthermore%2C%20the%20European%20Commission%20proposed,energy%20system%2C%20encompassing%20all%20sectors>.
- EEB (2022). 'New Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) plans ignore climate reality and biodiversity crisis'. Birdlife Europe and the European Environmental Bureau. <https://eeb.org/new-common-agricultural-policy-cap-plans-ignore-climate-reality-and-biodiversity-crisis/>.
- EIB, European Investment Bank (2022). 'The European Investment Bank's contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals'. European Investment Bank, 19 January 2022. <https://www.eib.org/en/publications/the-eibs-contribution-to-the-sustainable-development-goals>.
- European Commission (2015). 'A Global partnership for poverty eradication and sustainable development after 2015'. Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/com-2015-44-final-5-2-2015\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/com-2015-44-final-5-2-2015_en.pdf).
- European Commission (2019). 'Reflection Paper: Towards a sustainable Europe by 2030'. EC: Brussels.

- European Commission (2020). 'Delivering on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals – a comprehensive approach'. Commission staff working document. Brussels: European Commission. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/delivering-uns-sustainable-development-goals-comprehensive-approach-staff-working-document\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/delivering-uns-sustainable-development-goals-comprehensive-approach-staff-working-document_en).
- European Commission (2022a). Commission welcomes member states' targets for a more social Europe by 2030. Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion.
- European Commission (2022b). 'EU action plan on digitalising the energy system'. European Union. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/QANDA\\_22\\_6229](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/QANDA_22_6229).
- European Court of Auditors (2022). Annual report on the performance of the EU budget – status at the end of 2021. Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union.
- European Parliament (2022a). 'Implementation and Delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals'. Texts Adopted. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0263\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0263_EN.html).
- European Parliament (2022b). *Draft Report on Policy Coherence for Development (2021/2164(INI))*.
- European Union (2007). 'Treaty of Lisbon: amending the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community'. *Official Journal of the European Union*. [http://publications.europa.eu/resource/cellar/688a7a98-3110-4ffe-a6b3-8972d8445325.0007.01/DOC\\_19](http://publications.europa.eu/resource/cellar/688a7a98-3110-4ffe-a6b3-8972d8445325.0007.01/DOC_19).
- Eurostat (2021). 'Environmental accounts: establishing the links between the environment and the economy'. European Commission. [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Environmental\\_accounts\\_-\\_establishing\\_the\\_links\\_between\\_the\\_environment\\_and\\_the\\_economy#Introduction\\_to\\_environmental\\_accounting](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Environmental_accounts_-_establishing_the_links_between_the_environment_and_the_economy#Introduction_to_environmental_accounting).
- FABLE (2021). *Environmental and Agricultural Impacts of Dietary Shifts at Global and National Scales*. Food, Agriculture, Biodiversity, Land-Use, and Energy (FABLE) Consortium. <https://fableconsortium.org/publications/environmental-and-agricultural-impacts-of-dietary-shifts-at-global-and-national-scales/>.
- Federal Government of Germany (2022a). '*Erreichung der 17 globalen Nachhaltigkeitsziele wichtiger denn je – Einrichtung von Transformationsteams beschlossen*' ('Achievement of the 17 global sustainability goals more important than ever: establishment of transformation teams decided'). Press and Information Office of the Federal Government of Germany (*Bundesregierung*), <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/themen/buerokratieabbau/erreichung-der-17-globalen-nachhaltigkeitsziele-wichtiger-denn-je-einrichtung-von-transformationsteams-beschlossen-2125282>.
- Federal Government of Germany (2022b). Nachhaltige Entwicklung treibt die Transformation voran | Bundesregierung. Die Bundesregierung informiert | Startseite. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/aktuelles/grundsatzbeschluss-deutsche-nachhaltigkeitsstrategie-2145820>
- Koundouri, P., and J. D. Sachs (2021). *Transformations for the Joint Implementation of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the European Green Deal: A Green and Digital, Job-Based and Inclusive Recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic*. SDSN.
- Koundouri, P., et al (2022). *Financing the Joint Implementation of the SDGs and the European Green Deal*. 2nd report of the SDSN Senior Working Group on the European Green Deal. SDSN Europe.
- Lafortune, G., M. Cortés-Puch, A. Mosnier, G. Fuller, M. Diaz, A. Riccaboni, A. Kloke-Lesch, T. Zachariadis, E. Carli and A. Oger (2021). *Europe Sustainable Development Report 2021: Transforming the European Union to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals*. Paris, France: SDSN, SDSN Europe and IEEP.
- Masood, E. (2022). 'Rebooting GDP: New Ways to Measure Economic Growth Gain Momentum'. *Nature* 611 (7935): 224–26. <https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-022-03576-w>.
- Morgan, S. (2022). 'Sweden set to be world's first country to target consumption-based emission cuts'. *Climate Home News*, 8 April 2022. <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2022/04/08/sweden-set-to-be-worlds-first-country-to-target-consumption-based-emission-cuts/>.
- OECD (2019). 'PISA Country Note: France'. OECD Publishing. France: Paris. [https://www.oecd.org/pisa/publications/PISA2018\\_CN\\_FRA.pdf](https://www.oecd.org/pisa/publications/PISA2018_CN_FRA.pdf).
- OECD (2022). 'Gross domestic spending on R&D (indicator)'. OECD Publishing. France: Paris. doi:

10.1787/d8b068b4-en.

Sachs, J. D., I. Massa, L. Bermont Diaz, G. Lafortune and S. Marinescu (2022). 'Adaptation, Loss and Damage: The Case for Climate Justice'. SDSN (Draft Working Paper). <https://www.unsdsn.org/adaptation-loss-and-damage-the-case-for-climate-justice>.

Sachs, J. D., G. Schmidt-Traub, M. Mazzucato, D. Messner, N. Nakicenovic and J. Rockström (2019). 'Six Transformations to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals'. *Nature Sustainability* 2 (9): 805–14. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-019-0352-9>.

Sachs, J. D., C. Kroll, G. Lafortune, G. Fuller and F. Woelm (2022). *Sustainable Development Report 2022: From Crisis to Sustainable Development, the SDGs as Roadmap to 2030 and Beyond*. Cambridge University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009210058>, <https://www.sdgindex.org/reports/sustainable-development-report-2022/>

SDSN and IEEP (2020). *Europe Sustainable Development Report 2020: Meeting the Sustainable Development Goals in the Face of the COVID-19 Pandemic*. Paris and Brussels: Sustainable Development Solutions Network and Institute for European Environmental Policy. <https://sdgindex.org/reports/europe-sustainable-development-report-2020/>.

Time News (2022). 'The Senate gives the green light to an acceleration of renewable'. 5 November 2022. <https://time.news/the-senate-gives-the-green-light-to-an-acceleration-of-renewable-energies/>.

von der Leyen, U. (2022) 'State of the Union Address by President von Der Leyen'. European Commission. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/ov/speech\\_22\\_5493](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/ov/speech_22_5493)



# **Ten Ideas to Strengthen the EU's SDG Leadership**

**(Experts' Contributions)**

## Part 3.

# Ten ideas to strengthen the EU's Sustainable Development Goals leadership (Experts' Contributions)

**Whatever it takes: Establish the global common good as Europe's strategic compass in a multipolar world**

**Adolf Kloeke-Lesch**

Co-Chair of SDSN Europe



**As the EU repositions itself in a multipolar world, it should strengthen its strategic autonomy by forging cooperative alliances with a diverse range of partners and aligning its external policies to the global common good.** Already in 2016, *The Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy* (European External Action Service, 2017) spoke of 'times of existential crisis' and set out to navigate a 'difficult, more connected, contested and complex world'. While nurturing 'the ambition of strategic autonomy' and calling to strengthen the Union on security and defense, the strategy also recognised that Europe 'cannot pull up a drawbridge to ward off external threats': the EU needed to 'invest in win-win solutions, and move beyond the illusion that international politics can be a zero-sum game'. The Strategy not only noted that 'our security at home depends on peace beyond our borders' but also that 'prosperity must be shared and requires fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals worldwide, including in Europe'. In 2022, for most of Europe the world looks quite different from that of 2016. Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine has

**Anna-Katharina Hornidge**

Director, German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS), co-chair of SDSN Germany



been acknowledged as a 'watershed moment in global politics' (von der Leyen, 2022), but this and its political ramifications should also be seen as part of a broader and long-term global sea change that was already becoming palpable when the Global Strategy was conceptualised.

**For years, increasing geopolitical and regional tensions as well as substantial processes of social polarisation and political autocratisation have been observed on all continents.**

The climate and biodiversity crises are contributing to a further increase in social and economic inequalities, especially in societies where livelihood systems are highly dependent on nature. Social fragmentation and the strengthening of authoritarian regimes are intricately linked with weakening multilateralism. Just as many people no longer feel sufficiently heard and represented in their societies and political systems, many (re-)emerging countries in particular doubt the chances of being able to develop their potential within the framework of the existing international order. Both sentiments form a breeding ground for conflict and violence within and between

societies; internationally, they make diplomatic and multilateral conflict-management based on international law more difficult and significantly limit the scope for cooperatively addressing our common global challenges.

### Avoid the security trap: update the Global Strategy

Although some of these trends are alluded to in the EU's new Strategic Compass for Security and Defence (European External Action Service, 2022), they are framed primarily as threats to the Union: responses are formulated solely in terms of security and defence policy. The Compass lacks any reference to the universal sustainable development agenda, nor does it offer or an adequate partnership concept of its own (Blockmans et al., 2022). Though concern for EU unity and autonomy is warranted, especially in the fields of security and defence, such a limited and short-sighted approach leaves a strategic void and runs the risk of backfiring – and most importantly, it harms the global common good. Precisely because the proclaimed 'comprehensive concept of security' is all but comprehensive, its threat-oriented strategic approach is about to dominate the EU's entire external policy discourse, from diplomacy to trade to international partnerships. Yet in a multipolar world, **peace cannot be assured solely through 'defence against' thinking** or the 'dangerous logic of zero-sum competition' (Weiss, 2022). **It also requires a 'cooperation for' approach** – for a sustainable, peaceful future (Hornidge, 2022). Long-term reciprocal and trusted partnerships can reduce insecurities, uncertainties and safety risks.

The EU has some good traditions in this regard and disposes of rich potential and appropriate instruments that must be strengthened and adapted to a changing global landscape. To this end, **the EU should swiftly and comprehensively review and reinvigorate its 2016 Global Strategy, to avoid the trap of aligning its external policies solely with the Strategic Compass for Security and**

**Defence.** This update should capitalise on key policy documents issued by the EU over the past six years, including the February 2021 plan to "Strengthen the EU's contribution to rules-based multilateralism" (European Commission, 2021) and the June 2022 approach on "The power of trade partnerships: together for green and just economic growth" (European Commission, 2022). In both documents, the SDGs rightfully take centre stage. Already in 2017, the New European Consensus on Development (European Commission, DG DEVCO, 2018) laid the basis for orienting international partnerships towards achieving the SDGs. In its recent *Report on the implementation of the European Union's external action instruments* (European Commission, DG INTPA, 2021 and 2022) the Union self-reports to what extent its instruments contribute to achieving the SDGs.

### Value multipolarity: Invest in credibility

The EU should not perceive multipolarity as a threat, but rather value it as an opportunity. **A multipolar world can become more stable, peaceful and prosperous the better it is supported by networks of cooperation involving different actors across a wide range of issues, and the stronger these actors align themselves with the global common good.** In embracing such a trajectory, the EU's strategic autonomy can only grow. Therefore, the EU should resist simplistic dichotomies of 'democracy versus autocracy', as well as the temptation to organize its partnerships in concentric circles around the G7, EU, and NATO spheres. Such a worldview not only ignores how multifaceted and multi-layered the multipolar world has become, but also threatens to deepen geopolitical divides and hamper strategic autonomy.

Furthermore, **the EU must invest in its own credibility. This includes addressing double standards, historic responsibilities and broken promises, and ensuring greater policy**



**coherence between internal and external policies.** The EU responded to the impacts of the global financial crisis in Europe with a '*whatever it takes*' approach. It has addressed the socio-economic consequences of COVID-19 in Europe with a '*whatever it takes*' approach and is now reacting with a '*whatever it takes*' approach to the domestic repercussions of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. In such times of crises, other concerns and the concerns of others are in danger of being overshadowed – to the detriment of global solidarity (Beisheim et al., 2022). **It is time for the EU to rise to the occasion, move beyond inward-looking, Europe-focussed responses, and invest 'whatever it takes' – diplomatically, financially, through cooperation and coherence – in the global common good, epitomised and documented in the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs.** The SDG agenda is the only common narrative that offers the world and the EU a peaceful and mutually strengthening path to a multipolar world. It is not enough for the EU to rhetorically reaffirm the SDGs. To achieve the SDGs, the EU must redesign its strategies to reflect a changing geo-economic and geopolitical landscape.

## Forge global alliances for the SDGs: Foster mutually transformative partnerships

**The mission of the SDGs calls for coalitions that work across geopolitical fault lines. If the EU is to reaffirm and regain its leadership on the SDGs, it must gear its own internal policies more explicitly towards the SDGs and give the 2030 Agenda strategic priority in all its external policies.** So far, the EU Common Foreign and Security Policy lacks clarity on how to universally realise the 2030 Agenda. Yet, especially in a world characterised by increasing tensions, a systematic SDG diplomacy can help build bridges, strengthen multilateralism, and promote the EU's geopolitical position. It is not sufficient to refer to the SDGs solely for guidance in cooperating with poorer countries; the EU must also leverage its relations and its economic

and political weight with countries like the US, China and Australia to drive SDG implementation forward – within these countries, between them and the EU, and in their external actions with other countries. The statement of the EU-US Summit 2021 'Towards a renewed Transatlantic partnership' (European Council, 2021), with its explicit reference to the 2030 Agenda, is one small step in this direction. Interestingly, and in contrast to the new EU Strategic Compass for Security and Defence, the recently published US National Security Strategy (although debatable in some respects) at least rhetorically refers to the SDGs and global sustainability challenges (The White House, 2022).

Attempting to forge global alliances around the SDGs solely from within the G7 will be futile. Instead, the EU and its member states should jointly strengthen, reform and work through more diverse and universal forums, such as the G20 and the United Nations. The recent G20 Summit in Bali, Indonesia and COP27 in Sharm-el-Sheik, Egypt have demonstrated that staying the course and working with diverse sets of partners can contribute to global understanding and commitments on SDG- and climate action. The EU should invest in advancing the international order to ensure that other regions and countries have a greater voice and influence in shaping our common future – for example, by joining others in proposing and pushing through full membership of the African Union in the G20, turning it into a G21. **The EU, France, Germany and Italy – as members of the G20 – should form a dedicated "Team Europe for the SDGs"** that works closely with the incoming G20 presidencies of India (2023), Brazil (2024) and South Africa (2025) to get the 2030 Agenda back on track and ensure that both the United Nations 2023 SDG Summit and the 2024 Summit of the Future effectively advance the decade of SDG implementation (Kloke-Lesch, 2021). Brazil's parallel G20 and BRICS presidencies in 2024 coinciding with Italy's G7 presidency should be embraced as opportunities to build bridges. Additionally, the EU should explore joint SDG acceleration initiatives with the African Union,



ASEAN, Mercosur, as well as other regional or bilateral partners.

In parallel to diplomatic initiatives towards achieving the SDGs and global governance in a multipolar world, the EU should significantly expand and strengthen issue-specific alliances with regions, countries and societies on all continents, including those with whom it does not agree on other topics. The 2021 Just Energy Transition Partnership Agreement with South Africa, negotiated at COP 26 in Glasgow, is a good example of such topic-specific cooperation. The European Green Deal and broader domestic implementation of the SDGs provide great opportunities, as well as necessitating cooperation with other countries and regions of all income levels in reciprocally transformative partnerships, such as restructuring value and supply chains to support sustainable production and consumption (Iacobuță et al., 2022).

The European Parliament has recently stressed that a 'renewed political impetus for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals is urgently needed to take into account the impact of COVID-19 and the global consequences of the Russian invasion of Ukraine' (European Parliament, 2022). It is high time the EU fully engages *'whatever it takes'* to develop a cooperation strategy for the global common good. **Design such a strategy should be a collaborative process involving partners across all geographic regions, respectful of globally diverse visions of the future, based**

**on solidarity and guided by democratic, liberal and emancipatory values.**

## References

- Beisheim, M., Berger, A., Brozus, L., Kloke-Lesch, A., Scheler, R., & Weinlich, S. (2022). The G7 and multilateralism in times of aggression: Maintaining and strengthening cooperative and inclusive approaches for the global common good. German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS). <https://www.idos-research.de/externe-publikationen/article/the-g7-and-multilateralism-in-times-of-aggression-maintaining-and-strengthening-cooperative-and-inclusive-approaches-for-the-global-common-good/>
- Blockmans, S., Macchiarini Crosson, D., and Paikin, Z. (2022). The EU's Strategic Compass. CEPS, <https://www.ceps.eu/ceps-publications/the-eus-strategic-compass/>
- European Commission (2021). Joint communication to the European Parliament and the Council on strengthening the EU's contribution to rules-based multilateralism (JOIN/2021/3 final). <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/ALL/?uri=CELEX:52021JC0003>
- European Commission (2022). Commission unveils new TSD approach to trade agreements. European Commission. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/api/files/document/print/en/ip\\_22\\_3921/IP\\_22\\_3921\\_EN.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/api/files/document/print/en/ip_22_3921/IP_22_3921_EN.pdf)
- European Commission, DG DEVCO (2018). The new European consensus on development 'our World, our Dignity, our Future': Joint statement by the Council and the representatives of the governments of the Member sStates meeting within the Council, the European Parliament, and the European Commission. European Commission Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development. Publications Office of the European Union. <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2841/741554https://doi.org/doi/10.2841/741554>
- European Commission, DG INTPA (2021). Commission Staff Working Document Accompanying the Document Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council: 2021

- Annual Report on the Implementation of the European Union's External Action Instruments in 2020. Directorate-General for International Partnerships and European Commission. (Brussels;; SWD(2021)388 final). <http://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/09b53227-5e5a-11ec-9c6c-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>
- European Commission, DG INTPA (2022). *2021 annual report on the implementation of the European Union's External Action Instruments in 2020*. Directorate-General for International Partnerships. Publications Office of the European Union. <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2841/99419>
- European Council (2021). EU-US summit statement: 'Towards a renewed Transatlantic partnership'. Council of the European Union. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/50758/eu-us-summit-joint-statement-15-june-final-final.pdf>
- European External Action Service (2017). Shared vision, common action: A stronger Europe: A global strategy for the European Union's foreign and security policy. Publications Office. <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2871/9875>
- European External Action Service (2022). A Strategic Compass for Security and Defence. For a European Union that protects its citizens, values and interests and contributes to international peace and security. European External Action Service (EEAS). [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/strategic\\_compass\\_en3\\_web.pdf](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/strategic_compass_en3_web.pdf)
- European Parliament (2022). Texts adopted – Implementation and delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals – European Parliament resolution of 23 June 2022(P9\_TA(2022)0263). European Parliament. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0263\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0263_EN.html)
- Hornidge, A.-K. (2022). Bitte keinen Nationalismus oder Eurozentrismus: Eine Kooperationsstrategie für das globale Gemeinwohl. *49security*. <https://fourninesecurity.de/2022/10/05/eine-kooperationsstrategie-fuer-das-globale-gemeinwohl>
- Iacobuță, G. I., Onbargi, A. F., Bolduc, N., Dzebo, A., Keijzer, N., & Malerba, D. (2022). The European Green Deal and the war in Ukraine: Addressing crises in the short and long term. The European Think Tanks Group (ETTG), <https://ettg.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/The-European-Green-Deal-and-the-war-in-Ukraine.pdf>
- Kloke-Lesch, A. (2021). How Germany's 2022 G7 Presidency could shape change. German Development Institute. (DIE). <https://www.idos-research.de/en/the-current-column/article/how-germanys-2022-g7-presidency-could-shape-change/>
- The White House. (2022). The Biden-Harris Administration's National Security Strategy. The White House. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Biden-Harris-Administrations-National-Security-Strategy-10.2022.pdf>
- von der Leyen, U. (2022). State of the Union Address by President von der Leyen. European Commission. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/ov/speech\\_22\\_5493](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/ov/speech_22_5493)
- Weiss, J. C. (2022). 'The China Trap'. *Foreign Affairs*, September/October. <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/china/china-trap-us-for-foreign-policy-zero-sum-competition>

## Financing sustainable development in the Global South

### Elise Dufief

Research Fellow, Financing Sustainable Development, Institut du développement durable et des relations internationales (IDDRI)



**European institutions have committed to financing sustainable development, but the multiple strategies currently in place are not yet adequately articulated to address the financing gap in a coherent way. Between the Global Gateway, the Sustainable Development Goals and the European Green Deal, Europe needs an integrated approach to financing sustainable development that can bring these priorities together to meet real-world needs. To that effect, the numerous European actors in the development space must develop more collaborative relationships with external partners, working in dialogue with partner countries and complementing other international initiatives to finance sustainable development.**

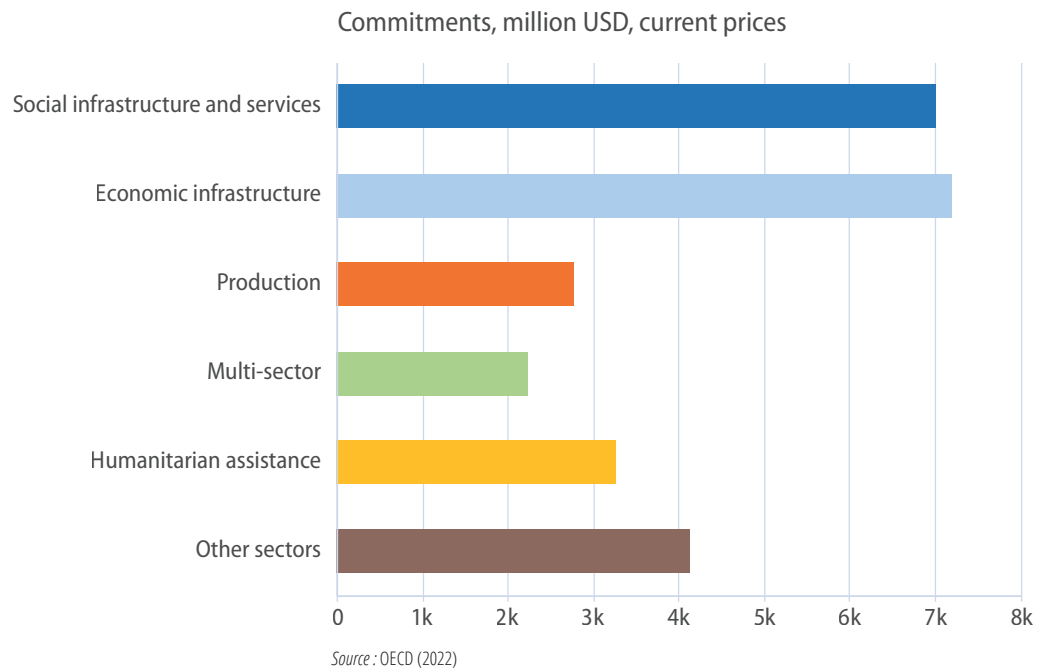
At the European Development Days in Brussels in June 2022, Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, presented one of the latest EU initiatives: the Global Gateway. She described this new infrastructure investment strategy as 'Europe's offer to a world that needs massive investment. It aims at mobilising EUR 300 billion by 2027. EUR 150 billion of them in Africa. It has the size to make a difference and, just as importantly, it lays out a new approach to big infrastructure projects' (European Commission,

2022). Initially launched in December 2021, the initiative's unveiling instantly raised multiple questions: How different was the Global Gateway to existing initiatives? How would it be financed? How new would the approach be? How would it be put into practice and monitored?

The Global Gateway illustrates the EU's aim to incorporate development and cooperation work into its broader foreign policy strategy. The initiative is designed to mobilise both public and private actors, going beyond development aid to also serve geopolitical interests (Furness and Keijzer, 2022; Teevan et al., 2022). It is presented as an opportunity to promote a new approach to development finance, particularly in relation to Africa. However, to date, the initiative has struggled to deliver.

Financing sustainable development in the Global South is more necessary than ever. The needs are varied and increasing, pushing achievement of the SDGs by 2030 further and further out of reach. Together with its member states, the EU remains the largest multilateral donor in the world, providing over €50 billion in aid annually. A significant share of the EU institutions' bilateral official development assistance goes to financing infrastructure, to which individual contributions from member states and their agencies should be added (Figure 3.1).

But for Europe to fully play its role in financing sustainable development, it must look beyond financial volumes. Specifically, Europe must 1) examine its ecosystem of development priorities and determine how they can work coherently, and 2) understand the practical implications of changing its method of development finance, both within the EU and with respect to international partners.

**Figure 3.1 |** Bilateral ODA from EU Institutions, by sector (2020)


### Infrastructure, climate and sustainable development priorities: towards a more holistic approach to policymaking for international development

In the last few years, the EU and its member states have launched numerous strategies to drive external action and provide financing for sustainable development abroad. With priorities multiplying, however, policies need to become more efficient and coherent in order to maintain clear objectives and demonstrate progress.

While the Global Gateway initiative is focussed on financing infrastructure, at least two other agendas have been identified as core to the work of the EU. First, the Green Deal, launched in July 2021, unveiled the EU's plan to become carbon neutral by 2050, and second, the EU committed to implementing the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. But how do these infrastructure, climate and sustainable development agendas work together? Are they competing, complementary or compartmentalised? While individually they respond to key needs, their articulation has not yet been clearly spelled out, which raises

questions about their transformative potential in partner countries.

In principle, the Global Gateway focuses on financing five sectors: digital, health, transport, climate and energy, and education and research (European Commission, 2021a). There is an overlap between these and the priorities of the European Green Deal, and also with the SDGs as targets to be reached by 2030 – already identified as a key compass to inform the EU's external work (United Nations, 2022). Although the European Commission has stated that the Global Gateway will align with the SDGs and the Paris Agreement, there is no concrete plan outlining how this alignment will be achieved, or where its sustainable development principles lie. In fact, questions have been raised about whether the implementation of EU projects abroad would take sustainability into account from a social and environmental standpoint. Similarly, while the Green Deal is meant to significantly shift the way the EU does cooperation work, specific external goals (such as how it will be implemented in partner countries and its links to the 2030 Agenda) have yet to be defined (Hackenesch et al., 2021).

Discussions in the run-up to the launch of these initiatives seem to have been siloed and lacking a horizontal coherence incorporating the multiple dimensions of the EU's external policy objectives. These are all different parts of a complex but unified system of operation: addressing specific issues in one area could either create or solve others in another. The EU needs an integrated approach that unifies its policy goals and guides concrete action, both in the short and longer terms.

In addition to its strategies for financing international development, the EU's credibility lies in the financial means it has at its disposal to deliver on its promises. In the last few years, the EU has undergone significant changes, following negotiations to simplify its aid and development architecture and render it more efficient and impactful. In June 2021, the EU adopted the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – 'Global Europe' – its new and unique instrument for cooperation work with partner countries, allocating it €79.5 billion for the 2021–2027 period, which is to include a stronger focus on private sector mobilisation through guarantees (European Commission, 2021b). Due to the need to also reform the EU's financial architecture, the European Investment Bank has been given a new role in financing climate action and supporting international cooperation objectives (European Investment Bank, 2022). And yet, some of the criticism around the Global Gateway lies in the magnitude of the figures announced by the Commission, which clearly go beyond its development and cooperation means. There is little clarity on where additional financing will come from, or where there might be funding gaps to which other stakeholders, including from the private sector, could contribute. Repackaging or rebranding existing programmes would only postpone these challenges and make it harder for them to be addressed, especially when some partner countries' debts limit the type of support they can provide.

So that informed decisions can be made in both the short and long terms, the EU needs to define a clearer approach under an

integrated agenda. To minimise uncertainty and maintain constructive dialogue, this should be accompanied with a concrete financing plan and defined milestones to measure achievements, including by contributing to existing global agendas such as the SDGs.

### **A change in methods: stronger European leadership for better partnerships**

In 2019, von der Leyen called for a 'partnership of equals' with the African continent and more broadly as a renewed approach to international cooperation. This echoed calls for change in cooperation methods at multiple levels: within the EU and its member states to reduce fragmentation of action, with other international stakeholders to ensure complementarity and with partner countries to rebuild trust and legitimacy.

Given the increasing needs and diversity of projects in which Europeans are engaged, the number of European stakeholders in development activities has increased over time – mixing public and private actors from governments, their agencies, development banks and the private sector. Launched in April 2020 in response to the global consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Team Europe approach aims to gather all these actors under one shared umbrella, each providing some level of financing or expertise, and sharing tasks and responsibilities that build on their respective strengths (European Union, 2022; Jones and Sergejeff, 2022). This approach has resulted in numerous Team Europe initiatives, all contributing to the overarching strategies mentioned earlier, including the Global Gateway and the Green Deal. To be successful, the Team Europe approach will require a strong European leadership supported by a shared long-term vision. As highlighted by the European Parliament resolution on implementing the SDGs, the 2030 Agenda can provide some of this long-term integrated sustainable development vision, on which specific EU priorities can be based

(European Parliament, 2022). Such a framework also offers the opportunity to monitor and track progress so that adjustments can be made when needed. In this regard, Team Europe may be better able to track their contributions to identified needs and global goals if they can reconcile existing results-framework partner country strategies and align them with the OECD-UNDP Impact Standards for Financing Sustainable Development.

A stronger and more unified European leadership on sustainable development finance would also help ensure complementarity with the work done by other international stakeholders. From a development perspective, European efforts could gain more by being complementary to China's Belt and Road Initiative, rather than in opposition to it (Kastrop et al., 2022). Similarly, the EU could benefit from close cooperation with the recently launched G7 Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (The White House, 2022). A development approach could further enhance this complementarity by contributing to specific goals while ensuring sustainability of these investments from a social and environmental standpoint.

A final concern over the Global Gateway is the relative absence of consultation and dialogue with national counterparts from the Global South. Financial support should come with a better way of doing things, one that promotes collective development impact and reduces power asymmetries among parties. This involves addressing trade-offs and finding ways to reconcile diverse agendas such as sustainable development with trade, or the just energy transition with the fight against poverty. These objectives were at the roots of the European regional project; they should still be at the heart of its approach, internally and externally.

## Outlook

In 2023, the EU will find itself at a crossroads. This will be a year in which the Union will collectively present its SDG review ahead of the second 'SDG Summit' (which marks the midpoint in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs); assess how its NDICI and other development tools have been used, and to what effect; and evaluate the midterm progress of the von der Leyen cabinet. The EU also has a major opportunity in 2023 to better align its development finance priorities and coordinate among stakeholders to meet the needs of partner countries.

## References

- European Commission (2021a). Global Gateway. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/stronger-europe-world/global-gateway\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/stronger-europe-world/global-gateway_en)
- European Commission (2021b). Global Europe: Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/global-europe-neighbourhood-development-and-international-cooperation-instrument\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/global-europe-neighbourhood-development-and-international-cooperation-instrument_en)
- European Commission (2022). Global Gateway in focus as President von der Leyen opens European Development Days. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/AC\\_22\\_4016](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/AC_22_4016)
- European Investment Bank (2022). EIB Global. <https://www.eib.org/en/global/index.htm>
- European Parliament (2022). Implementation and delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0263\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0263_EN.html)
- European Union (2022). Working Better Together as Team Europe | Capacity4dev. <https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/wbt-team-europe>
- Furness, M. and Keijzer, N. (2022). 'Europe's global gateway: a new geostrategic framework for development policy?', German Development Institute.

- 
- Hackenesch, C., Högl, M., Bergmann, J., Sturm, J., Barchiche, D. and Kloke-Lesch, A. (2021). Mind the gap? Sketching the relevance of the 2030 Agenda for the Green Deal and other key EU policies in the context of the Covid-19 crisis. <http://ettg.eu/institute/die/mind-the-gap-sketching-the-relevance-of-the-2030-agenda-for-the-green-deal-and-other-key-eu-policies-in-the-context-of-the-covid-19-crisis/>
- Jones, A., and Sergejeff, K. (2022). Half-time analysis: How is Team Europe doing? <https://ecdpm.org/work/half-time-analysis-how-team-europe-doing>
- Kastrop, C., McArthur, J.W. and Treyer, S. (2022). 'Ramping up Investments in a better future: The need for a refreshed G7 approach to realize the opportunity of global sustainable development', T7 Task Force International cooperation for the global common good, 17.
- OECD (2022). 'European Union Institutions', in *Development Co-operation Profiles*. Paris: OECD Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1787/c0ad1f0d-en>
- Teevan, C., Bilal, S., Domingo, E. and Medinilla, A. (2022). The Global Gateway: A recipe for EU geopolitical relevance?', European Centre for Development Policy Management. <https://ecdpm.org/work/global-gateway-recipe-eu-geopolitical-relevance>
- The White House (2022). President Biden and G7 leaders formally launch the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/06/26/fact-sheet-president-biden-and-g7-leaders-formally-launch-the-partnership-for-global-infrastructure-and-investment/>
- United Nations (2022). Sustainable Development Goals remain EU's 'compass'. <https://unric.org/en/sustainable-development-goals-remain-eus-compass/>



## Transformation 1. Education for sustainable development and innovation in Europe

### María Cortés Puch

Vice President of Network Program,  
UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)



*Achieving the green and digital transformations will require investments in high quality education for all and in sustainable research and development.*

The European Green Deal and the EU Recovery and Resilience Facility, which the European Commission negotiated last year, have become critical vehicles for achieving the SDGs. As shown in this report, Europe faces major challenges in achieving SDGs 12 through 15 (related to responsible production and consumption, climate change and biodiversity) and SDG 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), which is the goal with the largest divergence across EU member states, highlighting major gaps in innovation and productivity across the region. Taking concerted action to improve education (SDG 4) is one of the key factors in moving forward. Almost all children complete basic education in Europe, but there are persistent gaps in learning outcomes by socioeconomic status, in access to lifelong learning, and in access to and the quality of education in non-EU countries (especially for pre-primary education). The transformations promoted by the Green Deal require investments in education and skills at all levels – pre-primary, primary, secondary, tertiary and lifelong learning – to ensure that no one is left behind and to further the convergence of living standards and productivity across

member states. This is particularly crucial in the face of the multifaceted crises that are affecting the most vulnerable, including young people, women and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

In the context of the twin green and digital transformations, this paper proposes three priorities for improving education systems and boosting skills and innovation for sustainable development across Europe. 1) Strengthen education and curb inequalities in access to, and the quality of, education by socioeconomic status – inequalities that the pandemic has aggravated. This action is crucial to advance convergence in living standards and productivity within and across European countries. 2) Further promote education for sustainable development in school curricula at all levels. 3) Increase support for research and development and sustainable innovation, including further leveraging Horizon Europe and scientific networks, to both accelerate progress towards the SDGs and improve European competitiveness in strategic sectors and technologies. Achieving these three priorities will require a combination of EU-wide initiatives – such as the implementation of the European Education Area – and targeted policies at the member state level.

### Quality education for all to transform Europe

The first principle of the European Pillar of Social Rights is the right to quality education and lifelong learning. Yet even before the pandemic, almost one quarter of 15-year-olds in Europe failed to complete basic mathematics, science and reading tasks (OECD, 2018). Most OECD



countries have suffered further losses in reading and mathematics outcomes as a result of the pandemic (OECD, 2022). This is particularly troubling given that education outcomes are influenced by socioeconomic status, with students from disadvantaged backgrounds overrepresented among underachievers.

The pandemic has also had a disproportionate impact on children from disadvantaged backgrounds (OECD, 2022; European Commission, 2021), who have most likely 'lost further ground' (European Commission et al., 2021). These circumstances will increase overall European inequalities and could become a barrier to achieving the twin green and digital transformations.

These transformations and Europe's long-term prosperity will depend on improving inclusiveness for all socioeconomic groups through greater investments in educational quality and skills for lifelong learning. Over the last two years, most European countries have increased investment in education systems as part of their pandemic recovery strategies. However, it is unclear to what extent these increases reflect investments made simply to adapt to the pandemic: such as training teachers for online schooling, improving building ventilation, or providing masks to school personnel (OECD, 2022). While necessary to keep education systems running, these investments are not focused on the transformations needed to ensure that no students are left behind, neither do they address the need to better integrate sustainable development into school curricula. What is needed are investments in quality early childhood education and targeted efforts in socioeconomically deprived areas that have proven success in reducing inequalities in education outcomes. Investments should be directed particularly to areas in the EU regions that score low on metrics related to educational performance or level of education attainment, as continues to be the case, for example, in many rural areas.

### The opportunity offered by a European Education Area

The EU has been working since 2017 to establish a European Education Area (EEA) that can enhance collaboration, resilience and inclusiveness in education across the continent. The EEA is focused on upgrading educational quality, fostering skills for lifelong learning, and promoting digital skills for all. As well as establishing education systems that ensure no worker is left behind, European governments must consider the needs of its companies that must compete with cutting-edge enterprises from China, Japan, South Korea, the United States and elsewhere. This will require that the EU and its member states work toward equipping every worker for the new sustainable economy, including by integrating a sustainable development focus across all new programming.

The Commission's proposals for the establishment of the EEA by 2025 have identified critical education challenges across the EU that must be addressed. Though some progress has been made, there is a sense that efforts toward comprehensive implementation of the EEA have been insufficient, given the vision's ambitious goals. Given the documented impact that the pandemic has had on education outcomes, the well-defined goals of the EEA to improve inclusiveness and outcomes for those at risk of being left behind, and the considerable resources and political buy-in it already has, completing the EEA is an urgent priority. Overcoming the challenge of execution is the clear next step.

Heriart, Prutsch and Thoenes (2021) offer several recommendations to advance this effort. These include developing a comprehensive evaluation framework consistent with SDG 4 on education, investigating synergies with the European Research Area and the European Higher Education Area and laying out exactly what the EEA will require from local and national partners to ensure buy-in. This last recommendation is particularly important given that the EEA is being developed within an already crowded landscape

of EU-driven initiatives across a range of issues, from education to climate change to energy security. In the current context of pandemic recovery, global energy and food-price shocks, and a war in Europe that is dominating leaders' agendas, it is crucial to get it right in laying the groundwork for recovery and sustainable growth that can help European societies move beyond today crises.

There are some good examples of how this is being done at the member-state level. The Spanish Recovery and Resilience Plan (Government of Spain, 2021a), presented to the European Commission in 2021, explicitly aims to offset the foreseeable negative impacts of the pandemic on the two groups hardest hit by the previous financial crisis: women and young people (Government of Spain, 2021b). It directs €750 million to addressing youth unemployment via a series of programmes that include innovative training adapted to the sustainable development economy, as well as through policies aimed to develop a dynamic, resilient and inclusive labour market that will have a place for young people with varying levels of education.

In addition, the Spanish plan offers measures to promote entrepreneurship and increase training and employment rates for women and girls, and to improve maternal care systems to facilitate women's access to education and to labour markets. This initiative is a good example of how member states can address inequalities by directing exceptionally mobilised funding towards education, life-long learning, and necessary support systems that promote access to education.

### Addressing the challenges of sustainable development

As well as addressing inequalities and ensuring that no worker is left behind, the green and digital transformations will also depend upon increased support for cutting-edge education, especially higher education, which goes hand-in-hand with world-leading research and innovation. Achieving this will depend in part on better integrating

education for sustainable development towards a long-term alignment of educational, economic and environmental goals.

At a more advanced level, as the largest research funding programme in the world, Horizon Europe will be an important mechanism of support at a more advanced level. It must commit its support to resolving innovation challenges and developing the technologies that will be needed to achieve the SDGs and implement the Paris Climate Agreement. In this sense, Horizon Europe's focus on the four Green Deal missions (adaptation to climate change, restoring oceans and waters, developing climate-neutral and smart cities, and restoring healthy soils) presents a promising model for delivering high-impact innovation that aligns with the six SDG transformations. The Horizon Europe investment programme could also be an important tool to strengthen innovation systems in member states with weaker research and development systems and to encourage leading European companies to develop digital technologies, including artificial intelligence and targeted sustainable technologies.

One key feature of Horizon 2020 is the concept of 'sister projects': large, complex research and innovation projects conducted by consortiums of research institutions, government agencies, civil society and the private sector which share knowledge with other sister projects. This innovative and resourceful way of addressing sustainable development challenges through an ecosystem of projects that advance in parallel has proven to be extremely effective.

It is SDSN's philosophy that networks will become the institutional infrastructures best fit to address the complex challenges of sustainable development. For Europe, these networks would draw on various EU frameworks and funding mechanisms to advance action at local and national levels. The scale of the transformations that the SDGs require, the ambitious timeline for achieving them, and the nature of the challenges make collaboration across disciplines, sectors and countries essential.

At SDSN we have identified several advantages that networks offer when it comes to addressing complex challenges, including but not limited to: the rapid and efficient exchange of information; a richness of perspectives, expertise and knowledge; coordinated action, reducing redundancies and balancing trade-offs; the capacity to adapt to emerging opportunities; and resilience to unexpected changes or crises (Barredo et al., 2019). While the Horizon 2020 sister projects is already a valuable innovation, ideally in the years to come, the European Commission and member states will increase their support to networks as an essential form of institutional infrastructure.

## References

- Barredo, L., Cortes-Puch, M. and Maddox, C. (2019). 'Sustainable Development Goals and Networks as a Collaboration Model', in Leal Filho W. (ed.) *Encyclopedia of Sustainability in Higher Education*. Cham: Springer Nature.
- EESC (2020) An integrated approach for the EU's rural areas, with particular emphasis on vulnerable regions, Own-initiative opinion. European Economic and Social Committee, Brussels, NAT/790-EESC-2020. Adopted on 18 September 2020.
- European Commission, Blaskó, Z. and Schnepf, S.V. (2021). Educational inequalities in Europe and physical school closures during Covid-19. [https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/publication/educational-inequalities-europe-physical-school-closures-during-covid-19\\_en](https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/publication/educational-inequalities-europe-physical-school-closures-during-covid-19_en)
- Government of Spain (2021a). Plan de recuperación, transformación y resiliencia [Recovery, transformation and resilience plan]. [https://www.Lamoncloa.gob.es/temas/fondos-recuperacion/Documents/160621-Plan\\_Recuperacion\\_Transformacion\\_Resiliencia.pdf](https://www.Lamoncloa.gob.es/temas/fondos-recuperacion/Documents/160621-Plan_Recuperacion_Transformacion_Resiliencia.pdf)
- Government of Spain (2021b). Programa nacional de reformas [National reform programme]. <https://www.hacienda.gob.es/CDI/ProgramaNacionaldeReformas/PNR2021.pdf>
- Heriart, P., Prutsch, M.J. and Thoenes, S. (2021). Research for CULT Committee – Making the European Education Area a reality: State of affairs, challenges and prospects. European Parliament, Policy Department for Structural and Cohesion Policies, Brussels.
- OECD (2018). PISA Database. Programme for International Student Assessment. <http://www.oecd.org/pisa/>
- OECD (2022). *Education at a glance 2022: OECD indicators*. Paris: OECD Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1787/3197152b-en>

## Transformation 2.

### The Green Deal as answer to Europe's energy crisis

**Marc Ringel**

Chairholder, European Chair for Sustainable Development and Climate Transitions, Sciences Po



The European Green Deal is Europe's climate and growth strategy. It aims to turn the European Union into the first carbon-neutral continent by 2050, while maintaining economic growth (European Commission, 2019). A key component is the decarbonisation of the energy sector, responsible for some 80% of the EU's greenhouse gas emissions, however in its underlying climate scenarios the Green Deal is conceived as a long-term strategy, still relying on fossil resources well into the next decade (Capros et al., 2018; Elkerbout et al., 2020; Hainsch et al., 2022). But the war in Ukraine and related fossil fuels shortages, along with resultant price hikes from energy suppliers, have raised concerns that the EU might give up on its climate objectives to address the energy supply crisis (Osička and Černoch, 2022). Indeed, many European member states have taken short-term measures that hint at such a shift, reactivating coal-fired power plants or replacing Russian gas with shipped-in liquefied natural gas (Saul, 2022). These actions have in turn led to price increases on global energy markets, transforming the European crisis into a global issue (IEA, 2022b).

Despite these short-term contingency measures to safeguard fuel provision, the Green Deal – or an update of it – can serve as a blueprint for both decarbonisation and energy security. This possibility becomes evident from key statistics

underlying the present situation: in 2020, about a quarter of the energy consumed in Europe was imported from Russia, either directly or indirectly (European Commission, 2022a). This dependence becomes even more pronounced when looking at individual energy sectors. The EU relied on Russia for some 26% of its crude oil imports, 43% of natural gas imports (more than 80% for some EU members), and 54% of hard coal imports. In monetary terms, these amounted to an annual fuel bill of €99 billion (Rodríguez-Fernández et al., 2022; European Commission, 2022c).

Turning from present statistics to projections for the future, these costs can be expected to increase significantly. Europe is facing a fossil fuels crisis. The (politically induced) present situation can be interpreted as a 'fast forward' into a not-so-far-off future where fossil resources are scarce and global demand elevated, and where increased competition for resources leads to amplified market uncertainties and related price spikes. With 60% of its fuel needs dependent on imports, the EU has a keen interest in avoiding entering such a future unprepared. When this impending crisis is combined with the costs of climate change (IPCC, 2021), there is a very compelling argument for front-loading the Green Deal and implementing it more quickly.

Advancing the Green Deal is by no means a simple task. Many scientific observers already see the EU as caught in a 'polycrisis' that is crippling its capacities to adequately respond to each separate crisis (finance, Covid, economic recovery, energy and climate) (Schimmelfennig, 2022; Zeitlin and Nicoli, 2021; Zeitlin et al., 2019). At the same time, a clear focus of present policies is the need to find alternative energy suppliers and diversify supply (Lambert et al., 2022), raising the risks of diminishing the solidarity among

EU member states and missing climate targets (Osička and Černoch, 2022). Despite these challenges, there is strong evidence that the original enthusiasm for the Green Deal has only grown stronger in the present crisis, thereby opening a window of opportunity for more stringent climate and energy policies (Ringel et al., 2021; Ringel and Knodt, 2019; Steffen and Patt, 2022; Grajewski, 2022).

The window is wide open: following adoption of the 'European climate law', with its legally binding objectives to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 55% by 2030 and reach carbon neutrality by 2050 (European Commission, 2020), the European Commission's 'Fit for 55' package aims to adapt all relevant EU legislation to meet new, higher levels of climate ambition (Erbach and Jensen, 2022). Relevant EU directives addressing clean energy are still under negotiation and may be upgraded to deliver a front-loaded version of the Green Deal, serving to support both climate objectives and clean and secure energy policies.

In its RePowerEU plan of May 2022 (European Commission, 2022d), the European Commission outlined its expectations for such updates, which are strongly aligned with proposals from the International Energy Agency to safeguard Europe's energy supply (IEA, 2022a). Focussing on supporting the climate transition, the RePowerEU plan proposes the following (Widuto, 2022):

1. Raise the target for the share of renewable energies – from 40% to 45% by 2035
2. Increase the objective for energy savings from 9% to 13% by 2030 (with the European Parliament asking for 14.5–16%)
3. Apply short-term measures to save energy, as outlined in the separate EU Save Energy communication (European Commission, 2022b)
4. Incorporate detailed provisions into the updated renewable energy and energy efficiency directives (RED III and EED) that will support more ambitious targets in both policy fields

5. Channel finance into these areas and increase funding for European research and development programmes such as Horizon Europe or EU-LIFE
6. Accelerate technologies and partnerships to open up green hydrogen as a new resource for Europe, both through domestic production and import partnerships

These proposals merit a critical appraisal to put them in perspective.

First and foremost, the proposals are notably more ambitious than previous goals and thereby advance implementation of the European Green Deal. But while a swift transformation is commendable, this speed will also increase 'transformation pains' in terms of accelerated regional restructuring. Such measures will only be successful if they can attract broad public support (Filipović et al., 2022). A just transition, with the promise to leave no one behind, will be key.

Second, while the Green Deal is a strategy for Europe, it has global impact (Smol, 2022). By delivering a successful blueprint for a climate and energy transition, the EU can contribute to advancing similar transitions across the globe. In this way, the EU can live up to its commitment to act as the global climate leader (Oberthür and Dupont, 2021). Leadership, however, does not mean that the EU cannot benefit from lessons learned in other regions of the world. EU leaders are advised to seek out such benefits by fostering international partnerships.

Third, expert concerns about achieving on ever more ambitious policy targets need to be taken seriously. As seen in 2020, a multitude of obstacles can prevent even comparatively low objectives from being met. Along with facing a steep learning curve in policy coordination and monitoring (Knodt et al., 2020; Bertoldi and Mosconi, 2020), clear and binding national targets and multi-level-governance arrangements will be required to support the targets and related policy measures (see, for example, Ringel, 2016). Stronger intra-European coordination will be crucial.

Fourth and last, there is no silver bullet for solving the climate and energy transition challenge. The full potential of these policies will only be achieved if they can be enacted stringently and swiftly. At COP 13 in 2007, the Executive Director of the International Energy Agency addressed the general assembly by highlighting that all policy options were on the table, leading to three clear recommendations: 'Implement, implement, implement' (Tanaka, 2007). Fifteen years later, the EU and its member states are well advised to remember these words, as well as act on them.

## References

- Bertoldi, P. and Mosconi, R. (2020). 'Do energy efficiency policies save energy? A new approach based on energy policy indicators (in the EU member states)', *Energy Policy*, 139, p. 111320. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol.2020.111320>
- Capros, P., Kannavou, M., Evangelopoulou, S., Petropoulos, A., Siskos, P., Tasios, N. et al. (2018). 'Outlook of the EU energy system up to 2050: The case of scenarios prepared for European Commission's 'clean energy for all Europeans' package using the PRIMES model', *Energy Strategy Reviews*, 22, pp. 255–263. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.esr.2018.06.009>
- Elkerbout, M., Egenhofer, C., Núñez Ferrer, J., Catuti, M., Kustova, I. and Rizos, V. (2020). The European Green Deal after Corona: Implications for EU climate policy. CEPS policy Insights No 2020-06 / March 2020. Centre for European Policy Studies (Policy Insights, 06). <http://aei.pitt.edu/102671/>
- Erbach, G. and Jensen, L. (2022). Fit for 55 package. Briefing of the European Parliamentary Research Service. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2022/733513/EPRS\\_BRI\(2022\)733513\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2022/733513/EPRS_BRI(2022)733513_EN.pdf)
- European Commission (2019). The European Green Deal, communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, COM (2019) 640 final, Brussels 11.12.2019. Brussels: European Commission. [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:b828d165-1c22-11ea-8c1f-01aa75ed71a1.0002.02/DOC\\_1andformat=PDF](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:b828d165-1c22-11ea-8c1f-01aa75ed71a1.0002.02/DOC_1andformat=PDF)
- European Commission (2020). Proposal for a regulation establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 (European Climate Law). COM/2020/80 final. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1588581905912&uri=CELEX:52020PC0080>
- European Commission (2022a). Energy in figures. Statistical pocketbook. Brussels: European Commission; DG Energy.
- European Commission (2022b). EU save energy. Communication from the European Commission of 18 May 2022. COM(2022) 240 final. Brussels: European Commission.
- European Commission (2022c). In focus: Reducing the EU's dependence on imported fossil fuels. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/focus-reducing-eus-dependence-imported-fossil-fuels-2022-apr-20\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/focus-reducing-eus-dependence-imported-fossil-fuels-2022-apr-20_en)
- European Commission (2022d). REPowerEU Plan. Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, COM/2022/230 final. Brussels: European Commission. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2022%3A230%3AFIN>
- Filipović, S., Lior, N. and Radovanović, M. (2022). 'The Green Deal – Just transition and sustainable development goals Nexus', *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 168, p. 112759. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rser.2022.112759>
- Grajewski, M. (2022). The Ukraine war and energy supply. What think tanks are thinking. Briefing of the European Parliamentary Research Service. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2022/729360/EPRS\\_BRI\(2022\)729360\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2022/729360/EPRS_BRI(2022)729360_EN.pdf)
- Hainsch, K., Löffler, K., Burandt, T., Auer, H., Del Crespo Granado, P., Piscella, P. and Zwickl-Bernhard, S. (2022). 'Energy transition scenarios: What policies, societal attitudes, and technology developments will realize the EU Green Deal?', *Energy*, 239, p. 122067. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2021.122067>
- IEA (2022a). A 10-point plan to reduce the European Union's reliance on Russian natural gas. Paris: IEA/OECD. <https://www.iea.org/reports/a-10-point-plan-to-reduce-the-european-unions-reliance-on-russian-natural-gas>



- IEA (2022b). Gas market report, Q4-2022. Including global gas security review 2022. Paris: IEA/OECD.
- IPCC (2021). Climate change 2021: The physical science basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Edited by V. Masson-Delmotte, P. Zhai, A. Pirani, S.L. Connors, C. Péan, S. Berger, N. Caud, Y. Chen, L. Goldfarb, M.I. Gomis, M. Huang, K. Leitzell, E. Lonnoy, J.B.R. Matthews, T.K. Maycock, T. Waterfield, O. Yelekçi, R. Yu, and B. Zhou. Cambridge University Press. [https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/downloads/report/IPCC\\_AR6\\_WGI\\_SPM\\_final.pdf](https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGI_SPM_final.pdf)
- Knodt, M., Ringel, M. and Müller, R. (2020). 'Harder' soft governance in the European Energy Union', *Journal of Environmental Policy and Planning*, 2(1), pp. 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1523908X.2020.1781604>.
- Lambert, L.A., Tayah, J., Lee-Schmid, C., Abdalla, M., Abdallah, I., Ali, A.H.M. et al. (2022). 'The EU's natural gas Cold War and diversification challenges', *Energy Strategy Reviews*, 43, p. 100934. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.esr.2022.100934>
- Oberthür, S. and Dupont, C. (2021). 'The European Union's international climate leadership: Towards a grand climate strategy?', *Journal of European Public Policy*, 28(7), pp. 1095–1114. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13501763.2021.1918218>
- Osička, J. and Černoč, F. (2022). 'European energy politics after Ukraine: The road ahead', *Energy Research and Social Science*, 91, p. 102757. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2022.102757>
- Ringel, M. (2016). 'Energy efficiency policy governance in a multi-level administration structure', *Energy Efficiency*, 1, pp. 1–24. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12053-016-9484-1>
- Ringel, M., Bruch, N. and Knodt, M. (2021). 'Is clean energy contested? Exploring which issues matter to stakeholders in the European Green Deal', *Energy Research and Social Science*, 77, p. 102083. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2021.102083>
- Ringel, M. and Knodt, M. (2019). 'EU 2030 energy policies: A review of the Clean Energy Package from a stakeholder perspective', *Zeitschrift für Umweltpolitik und Umweltrecht*, 4, pp. 445–467.
- Rodríguez-Fernández, L., Carvajal, A.B.F. and Tejada, V.F. de (2022). 'Improving the concept of energy security in an energy transition environment: Application to the gas sector in the European Union', *The Extractive Industries and Society*, 9, p. 101045. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.exis.2022.101045>
- Saul, J. (2022) EU countries hunt for global coal stocks as Russian ban looms. <https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/eu-countries-hunt-global-coal-stocks-russian-ban-looms-2022-04-06/>
- Schimmelfennig, F. (2022). Differentiated integration has been of limited use in the EU's polycrisis. Policy Briefs, 2022/31, Integrating Diversity in the European Union (InDivEU). <https://doi.org/10.2870/02001>
- Smol, M. (2022). 'Is the Green Deal a global strategy? Revision of the Green Deal definitions, strategies and importance in post-Covid recovery plans in various regions of the world' *Energy Policy*, 169, p. 113152. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol.2022.113152>
- Steffen, B. and Patt, A. (2022). 'A historical turning point? Early evidence on how the Russia-Ukraine war changes public support for clean energy policies', *Energy Research and Social Science*, 91, p. 102758. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2022.102758>
- Tanaka, N. (2007). Statement to the 13<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC. [https://iea.blob.core.windows.net/assets/imports/events/10/Tanaka\\_bali.pdf](https://iea.blob.core.windows.net/assets/imports/events/10/Tanaka_bali.pdf)
- Widuto, A. (2022). Preparing for 'RepowerEU': Action for more secure, more affordable and cleaner energy. EP Research Service. Europe at a glance. PE 729.421 – May 2022. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2022/729421/EPRS\\_ATA\(2022\)729421\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2022/729421/EPRS_ATA(2022)729421_EN.pdf)
- Zeitlin, J. and Nicoli, F. (eds.) (2021). The European Union beyond the polycrisis? Integration and politicization in an age of shifting cleavages. London: Routledge.
- Zeitlin, J., Nicoli, F. and Laffan, B. (2019). 'Introduction: The European Union beyond the polycrisis? Integration and politicization in an age of shifting cleavages', *Journal of European Public Policy*, 26(7), pp. 963–976. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13501763.2019.1619803>

## Transformation 3. Unlocking housing and mobility for sustainable cities and communities

### Aziza Akhmouch

Head of the Cities, Urban Policies and Sustainable Development division (OECD)



### Stefano Marta

Coordinator of the programme  
A Territorial Approach to the SDGs (OECD)



*Using the SDGs to manage trade-offs in urban policies*

### Framing the urban development challenge

Globally, one in two people lives in a city; and cities are expected to host 5 billion people by 2050. As an engine of growth, cities provide tremendous agglomeration benefits. They boost productivity, innovation and job creation; they attract skills and talents; they provide higher wages and income; and they facilitate access to a wide range of services and amenities. But if ill-managed, cities can also generate agglomeration costs (OECD, 2015). All countries – be they advanced, emerging or developing – face problems related to slums and overcrowded settlements, urban sprawl, air, noise or water pollution, inadequate or unaffordable housing, and insufficient or costly access to basic services such as electricity, water, sanitation, transport, education or health. The larger the city, the bigger the inequalities across demographics, places, and services. Recent health and environmental crises have magnified challenges in cities that lack quality urbanisation.

Housing and transport are often top policy priorities to unlock the sustainability potential of cities (OECD, 2022a). Indeed, across OECD countries, households spend from one-tenth to onethird of their disposable income on housing (including rent and maintenance). In OECD countries, transport is the second largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions (24% in 2018), with road transport accounting for 88% of total transport emissions (OECD, forthcoming).

Despite the 2030 Agenda's dedicated Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 on 'Cities and Communities' and specific targets on housing (11.1 on ensuring access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrading slums) and mobility (11.2 on providing access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, and improving road safety), cities are not on track to achieve these goals.

### Cities and regions as game changers

National governments will not solve the challenge on their own. Cities and regions are key partners to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable



Development, and at least 65% of the 169 SDG targets cannot be achieved without the direct engagement of subnational authorities. Local and regional governments hold key responsibilities in areas like housing, transport, infrastructure, land use, water and climate change, among others. In OECD countries, they will fund 55% of total public investment and 37% of total public expenditure.

Despite increasing uptake of the SDGs at the local level to reshape plans, strategies, and investments from the ground up, much remains to be done to reach the goals. Data measuring the progress of more than 650 cities from OECD and partner countries show that at least **70% of cities have not yet achieved the end values suggested for 2030 in 15 of the 17 SDGs** (OECD, 2020). The SDGs in which most cities lag relate to the environment – SDG 13 (Climate action) and SDG 15 (Life on land) – and gender equality (SDG 5). At least 95% of cities have not met the suggested end values. Cities also have high disparities in their distances from meeting the objectives of Goal 7 (Clean Energy). While 30% of the cities measured have reached the end values for this goal (meaning that more than 81% of their electricity production comes from renewable sources with no use of coal or fossil fuels), the remaining 70% are only halfway towards achieving the recommended outcomes (OECD, 2020).

### Leveraging the SDGs as a local policy tool for recovery

The SDGs are not an endpoint, but rather a means to an end. They should first and foremost facilitate the design and implementation of policies that benefit people and the planet. Beyond complying to goals and targets of the SDGs, **cities can use them to guide greater coherence across departments and policies, and between levels of government.**

The SDGs also offer a framework for shaping recovery from cascading and interlinked crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic, Russia's war

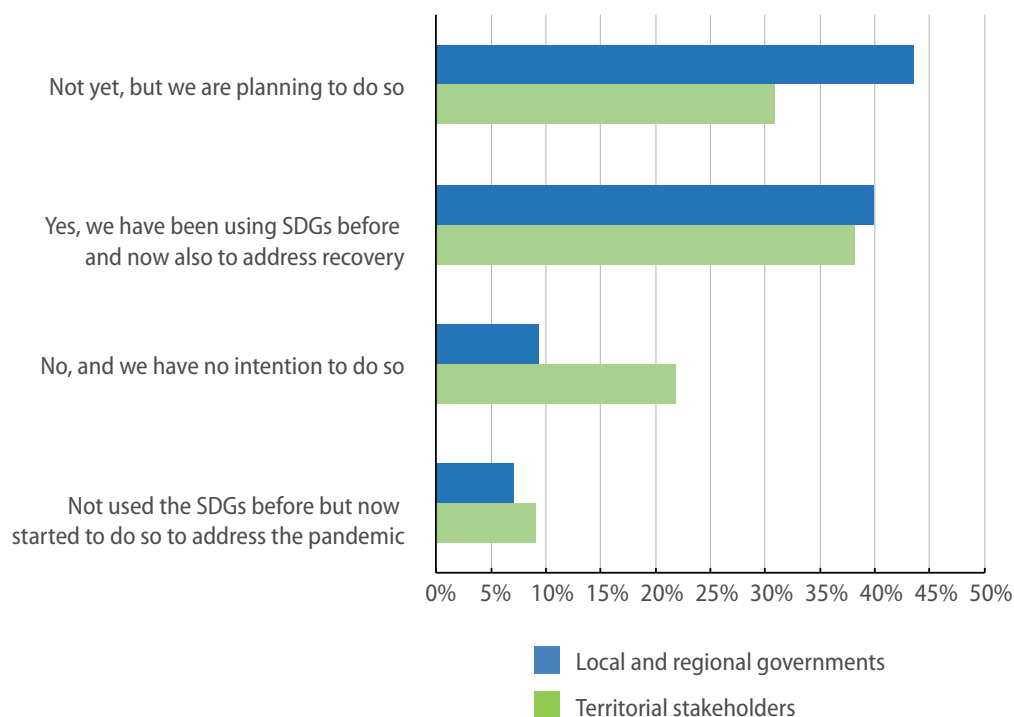
on Ukraine, climate change, or social discontent. Because the SDGs offer a long-term, stable framework, they provide a blueprint for the radical transformations needed to build inclusive, green, smart and resilient cities. A recent survey conducted by the OECD and the European Committee of the Regions (OECD-CoR) found that, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, no less than 40% of surveyed cities and regions had been using the SDGs before the pandemic and were already using them to shape the recovery phase. Another 44% plan to do so in the future (Figure 3.2) (OECD, 2022b).

### A spotlight on housing and mobility performance

Two key policy areas where cities are critical for accomplishing the SDGs are sustainable mobility and quality, affordable housing.

**Promoting sustainable mobility and transitioning to low-carbon transport (SDG 11) are key to reducing air pollution and building sustainable cities, but they require managing trade-offs between policy areas,** such as improving air quality while striving to reduce inequalities. For instance, to promote sustainable and inclusive mobility, cities strive to reduce dependence on cars in favour of more accessible, quality and affordable public transport alternatives – while also responding to the needs of a growing and ageing population and considering the impact that climate measures might have on inequality (for example, in the form of potentially more costly renewable energy sources or congestion charges). Cities must pay special attention to the impacts on vulnerable groups, in particular the elderly and young people. The SDGs provide an integrated framework to analyse interlinkages and manage trade-offs across those policy areas (OECD, 2022c).

According to the OECD-CoR survey (OECD, 2022b), 49% of cities and regions consider that improving multi-modal transport, such as ensuring active and clean urban mobility, is a main

**Figure 3.2 | Are you using the SDGs as a framework for the COVID-19 recovery phase?**


Source: OECD-CoR Survey on the SDGs as a Framework for COVID-19 Recovery in Cities and Regions

Note: Number of responses from local and regional governments: 86, number of responses from other territorial stakeholders: 55

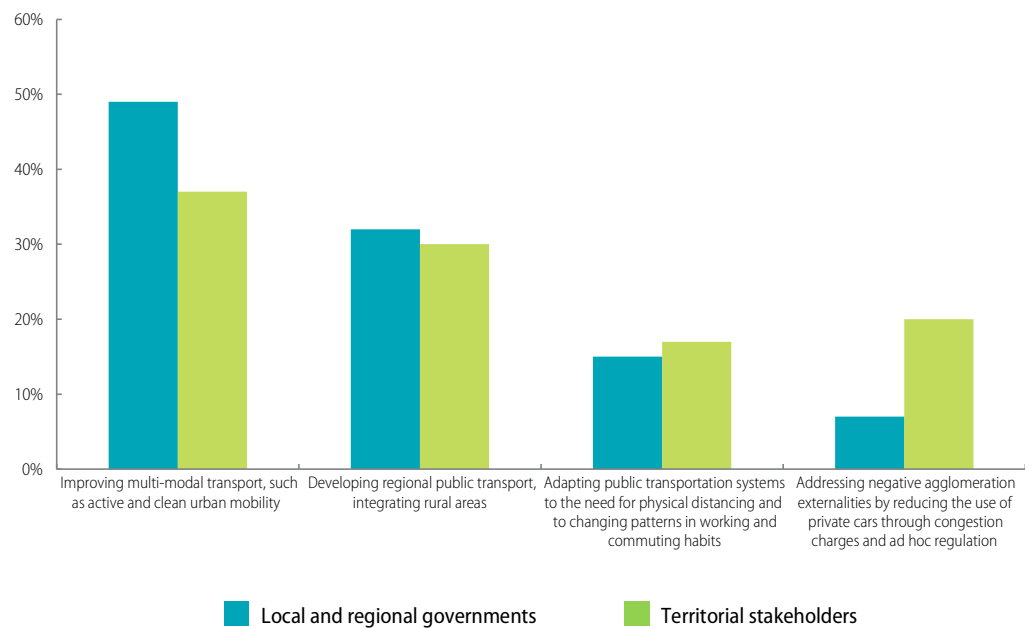
contributor to sustainable mobility and accessibility, and the achievement of SDG 11. This option is followed by developing regional public transport and better integrating rural areas into public transport networks (32% of cities and regions), adapting public transportation systems to the need for physical distancing and to changing patterns in work and commuting habits (15%) and addressing negative agglomeration externalities, such as traffic congestion and air pollution, by reducing the use of private cars through congestion charges and ad hoc regulations that account for specific exemptions (7%) (Figure 3.3).

In the German city of Bonn, improving air quality and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are high on the political agenda. However, lowering CO<sub>2</sub> levels to meet European norms is challenging in the face of a growing population and high individual motorised-vehicle traffic due to large commuting flows, among other reasons. Mobility is thus

an important issue in the local public debate from both health and social standpoints. The promotion of cycling has already gained traction in city policy through the Bonn Cycle Route concept. Planned investment in these areas offers an opportunity to improve the city's overall transport system.

Housing supply, quality and affordability are also key areas for local action. Cities above 50,000 inhabitants are projected to house 55% of the global population by 2050 – 81% of young people who moved within the same country between 2006 and 2016 settled in an urban or intermediate region (OECD, 2019). **Providing sufficient housing quality and quantity, while maintaining and developing green spaces, is a daunting task for many cities and regions.** City leaders face complex trade-offs in addressing such challenges: for example, reducing greenhouse gas emissions means maintaining

**Figure 3.3 |** Which policies and actions can most contribute to sustainable mobility and accessibility and thus achieve SDG 11 in your city or region?



Source: OECD-CoR Survey on the SDGs as a Framework for COVID-19 Recovery in Cities and Regions

Note: Number of responses from local and regional governments: 73-79 (not every respondent has rated all of the options), number of responses from other territorial stakeholders: 50-56 (not every respondent has rated all of the options)

and developing green spaces, yet another goal is to cater to a growing need for affordable housing. The SDG framework can facilitate an integrated approach to urban planning that seeks efficient use of space, provides access to quality and affordable housing, and maintains green areas, contributing to balanced urban development.

Measures to respond to those challenges include sustainable construction based on waste recycling (which tackles housing and recycling deficits at the same time), sharing with real estate developers the social infrastructure costs linked to housing projects and using private financing to make housing more affordable.

Spatial planning is one policy area that requires considering both the core city and its neighbouring municipalities (the commuting zone), whose labour market might be integrated with the city. Densifying the urban space, such

as by adjusting building codes and spatial-development regulations in urban and regional planning, can be a tool to provide more efficient land use, avoid urban sprawl and achieve sustainable urbanisation in the long term.

In the region of Flanders in Belgium, 'smart living' is among the priorities outlined in the government's Vision 2050. Households in Flanders spend on average 28% of their expenses on housing, which is more than in 70% of OECD regions. The Flemish Housing Agency and its partners are experimenting with transition management principles to involve the private sector in contributing to smart living in Flanders. Their work focusses on developing sustainable neighbourhoods conducive to sustainable lifestyle choices (for example, living and working in the same neighbourhood), while experimenting with new private financing

mechanisms to increase housing affordability (OECD, 2020).

Despite the urgent need to manage short-term emergencies and crises, cities should maintain a long-term perspective and embrace the radical and costly transformations required to be fit for the future. The SDGs represent a unique tool with which to recover from existing crises and address structural challenges, such as housing and mobility, that are magnified in the current context – through combining short-term responses with medium and long-term sustainable solutions.

## References

- OECD (2015). The metropolitan century: Understanding Urbanisation and its consequences. Paris: OECD Publishing. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/urban-rural-and-regional-development/the-metropolitan-century\\_9789264228733-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/urban-rural-and-regional-development/the-metropolitan-century_9789264228733-en)
- OECD (2019). OECD regional outlook 2019: Leveraging megatrends for cities and rural areas. Paris: OECD Publishing. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/urban-rural-and-regional-development/oecd-regional-outlook-2019\\_9789264312838-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/urban-rural-and-regional-development/oecd-regional-outlook-2019_9789264312838-en)
- OECD (2020). A territorial approach to the sustainable development goals: Synthesis report. Paris: OECD Publishing. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/urban-rural-and-regional-development/a-territorial-approach-to-the-sustainable-development-goals\\_e86fa715-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/urban-rural-and-regional-development/a-territorial-approach-to-the-sustainable-development-goals_e86fa715-en)
- OECD (2022a). Implementation toolkit of the OECD Principles on urban policy. Paris: OECD Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1787/630e0341-en>
- OECD (2022b). OECD toolkit for a territorial approach to the SDGs. Paris: OECD Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1787/2913bae2-en>
- OECD (2022c). The Sustainable Development Goals as a framework for Covid-19 recovery in cities and regions. Paris: OECD Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1787/6d25b59b-en>
- OECD (forthcoming). OECD regions and cities at a glance 2022. Paris: OECD Publishing.

## Transformation 4.

### Aligning the European food sector to the Agenda 2030: priorities, measurements and tools for supporting SMEs

#### Angelo Riccaboni

Co-Chair of SDSN Europe, Full Professor of Business Economics at the University of Siena, PRIMA Foundation



#### Peter Schmidt

President of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) Section for Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment (NAT)



#### Simone Cresti

SDSN Mediterranean Network Manager, University of Siena, Santa Chiara Lab



The Russian war of aggression on Ukraine and the COVID-19 pandemic have exacerbated famine and aggravated the situation of the world's most vulnerable populations and countries. With these phenomena occurring alongside, and contributing to, the worsening consequences of the climate crisis, it has become urgent to manage natural resources more effectively and ensure greater social inclusion, innovation and international cooperation and partnerships.

Sustainable agrifood systems have a key role to play in ensuring the health of both people and the planet, as well as paving the way for social prosperity. Food production provides the basis for wellbeing, peace, economic prosperity and security; it also has impacts on water, soil, biodiversity and energy resources. The latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2022) marks a step change in recognizing the links between food and the climate crisis, as more than one-third of global greenhouse gas emissions can be traced back to how we produce, process, and use food.

Food systems, in turn, are suffering from multiple climate calamities – changing weather patterns,

ecosystem collapse and degradation of land, soil and waterways (Jordi, 2022) – as well as from global trends such as urbanisation and population increases. Moreover, due to the value of trade in agricultural commodities (wheat, corn, sunflower oil, and fertilizers) and its implications on energy sources, trade and global logistics, the Russian invasion of Ukraine has disrupted the food supply chains at a time when global food and energy prices were already elevated. More than 30 countries depend on Russia and Ukraine for at least 30% of their wheat imports, and at least 20 depend on them for 50% of their wheat imports. Such countries have therefore been extremely vulnerable to price shocks and supply shortfalls (IPES-Food, 2022).

In this context, the impact of commodity speculation on the global crisis in the price of food should be further examined. The scope and scale of current price volatility can only be partially explained by market fundamentals (EESC, 2022a). One of the underlying flaws in the food system that has turned the Ukraine crisis into a global food security crisis is the opaque and dysfunctional nature of grain markets (IPES-Food, 2022).

The economic crisis caused by the pandemic has also had major impacts on food security and nutrition across the world. Families close to the poverty threshold, women, migrants, marginalised groups and people with seasonal, insecure and informal work have been hit the hardest. These same social groups were more vulnerable to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, because of their dietary habits, limited purchasing power, or lower awareness of the connection between diet and health.

### Emergence of the global centrality of food

COVID-19 has made the relationship between food and individual health more explicit, as the most vulnerable were people with diseases often related to malnutrition, such as diabetes and cardiovascular diseases. As some 700 to 830 million people worldwide faced hunger in 2021 – 150 million more than in 2019 (FAO et al., 2022) – it became apparent that hunger and food poverty are problems even outside developing countries. It also became clear that food safety and food security go hand in hand, as the right of access to food implies the availability of nutritious food, and in adequate quantity. Given that approximately 14% of the world's food, valued at \$400 billion, is lost each year between harvest and the retail market, and a further estimated 17% is wasted at the retail and consumer levels (FAO 2021a; UNEP, 2021), addressing such a paradox between need and waste is becoming a priority.

Food's centrality is pushing many countries to consider strategic **food autonomy** as a solution to food and fertiliser shortages. Becoming autonomous implies overcoming an emergency logic in favour of a strategic approach that pursues the medium-long-term objective of building sustainable agrifood systems and creating resilience to future crises. In particular, EU food systems should be more diversified; the agricultural workforce should be strengthened, especially by attracting young people and ensuring decent working conditions and remuneration;

and trade policies should align with EU food sustainability standards (EESC, 2021a). It must be noted that food autonomy should not mean food sovereignty: the future of food systems and solutions to the next unavoidable international and national crises lie in cooperation, and not in selfishness and closed borders.

The problem with trying to transform food systems is not a lack of solutions but a lack of concerted action, holistic approaches<sup>1</sup> and **international political determination** to address structural challenges. Some governments are considering enhancing the sustainability of their food systems but, at the same time, are falling back on old practices of intensive industrial agriculture (IPES-Food, 2022). The impacts of the war in Ukraine should not lead to compromises on actions to address climate change and sustainability, as provided for in the United Nations Agenda 2030 and the European Green Deal. Exceptional derogations from these commitments should be granted for a limited time only (EESC, 2022b).

The United Nations system and the EU both emphasise the key role of food systems (UN General Assembly, 2022), and the new EU Common Agricultural Policy aims at supporting and boosting the transition towards sustainable food production. At the heart of the **European Green Deal**, the **Farm to Fork** strategy promotes a just transition, with the awareness that a shift to a sustainable food system can bring environmental, health and social benefits, offer economic gains, and ensure that crisis recovery puts countries onto a sustainable path.

The EU recognises the influence that the private sector could have in such a shift and encourages companies to adhere to the **Code of Conduct on Responsible Food Business and Marketing Practices** (European Commission, 2021). The European Economic and Social Committee also recently urged food companies to align with the Agenda 2030 (EESC, 2021b).

1. See EESC opinion on a Comprehensive EU food policy

In particular, it acknowledged that business operators often view sustainability requirements as complex and burdensome rather than as an opportunity – and therefore recommended the use of more readily understandable language (a 'grammar for sustainability') to change this.

All of these policies and initiatives require the main actors of the agrifood system to collaborate to overcome constraints and boost sustainable transformation. Farmers, businesses and social partners all play crucial roles – from the smallest family farms to large multinational corporations and industry consortia, together with financial institutions, investors and philanthropic organisations. However, despite the importance of the private sector in achieving the SDGs, it has so far been difficult to capture and precisely quantify its contribution (FAO, 2021b).

To accelerate the contribution of the private sector, several issues must be tackled.

First, regulations should focus on each product's contribution to healthy and sustainable diets, and not on their absolute degree of sustainability. Second, in addition to focusing on their internal operations and their contribution to healthy and sustainable diets, companies should be mindful of the sustainability of their value chain and how they behave in and contribute to their communities. Third, **technological, organisational and social innovation must be harnessed** to boost the adoption of more sustainable farming and breeding practices (EESC, 2022c) and the use of raw materials for more sustainable internal processes and value chains, and to reduce the negative impacts of products and production and transformation processes. Innovation is needed in environmental as well as social aspects. Here, problems lie in the difficulties that small businesses face in innovating, in addressing their internal culture, and in their lack of financial resources.

Big companies are better equipped in terms of human resources, knowledge, skills and capacity to recognise megatrends and international

orientations. Consequently, they are often more able both to face the challenge of sustainability and to use its grammar – which is essential to answering to the needs of consumers, regulators and financial institutions. And while small businesses often have a lower impact on the environment, they are frequently unable to show it. Accountability frameworks, monitoring mechanisms and funding opportunities are usually better adapted to large companies. This is a gap to be urgently filled, since European food systems are predominantly made up of small and medium-sized enterprises.

**More support is needed to assist agrifood companies throughout their transition and help them to develop a "grammar for sustainability".** This support should include providing access to self-assessment tools, promoting networking between companies and entrepreneurship and sustainability educational programmes, creating communities of practice and promoting good practice, facilitating access to innovation ecosystems, to markets and market information, and offering financial incentives to encourage growth. The European Economic and Social Committee has also recommended the creation of an expert group to formulate Europe-wide sustainable dietary guidelines that take cultural and geographical differences between and within member states into account (EESC, 2019).

Ad hoc support for small and medium-sized enterprises can be provided by European, national and local policies and institutions. Universities and research centres can also be valuable in such a process, as well as food policy councils.

A key factor to promote the transition to a more sustainable agrifood system is greater encouragement of responsible consumption habits through education initiatives aimed at both schools and public opinion. Investing in teaching children about sustainable diets from an early age would help young people appreciate the value of food, and potentially transfer this appreciation to their parents.



### References

- EESC – European Economic and Social Committee (2019). EESC opinion: Promoting healthy and sustainable diets in the EU (own-initiative opinion). Adopted on 20 February 2019. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/promoting-healthy-and-sustainable-diets-eu-own-initiative-opinion>
- EESC – European Economic and Social Committee (2021a). EESC opinion: Strategic autonomy and food security and sustainability (own-initiative opinion). Adopted on 20 October 2021. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/strategic-autonomy-and-food-security-and-sustainability-own-initiative-opinion>
- EESC – European Economic and Social Committee (2021b). EESC opinion: Aligning food business strategies and operations with the SDGs for a sustainable post-Covid-19 recovery (own-initiative opinion). Adopted on 8 December 2021. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/aligning-food-business-strategies-and-operations-sdgs-sustainable-post-covid-19-recovery-own-initiative-opinion>
- EESC – European Economic and Social Committee (2022a). EESC opinion: Food price crisis: The role of speculation and concrete proposals for action in the aftermath of the Ukraine War (own-initiative opinion). Version updated on 21 September 2022. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/food-price-crisis-role-speculation-and-concrete-proposals-action-aftermath-ukraine-war>
- EESC – European Economic and Social Committee (2022b). RESOLUTION – The war in Ukraine and its economic, social and environmental impact. Version updated on 4 March 2022. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/documents/resolution/war-ukraine-and-its-economic-social-and-environmental-impact>
- EESC – European Economic and Social Committee (2022c). 'EESC opinion: Food security and sustainable food systems'. Adopted on 19 January 2022. <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/food-security-and-sustainable-food-systems>
- European Commission (2021). EU code of conduct for responsible food business and marketing practices: A common aspirational path towards sustainable food systems. [https://food.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-06/f2f\\_sfpd\\_coc\\_final\\_en.pdf](https://food.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-06/f2f_sfpd_coc_final_en.pdf)
- FAO (2019). The State of Food and Agriculture 2019: Moving forward on food loss and waste reduction. Rome: FAO.
- FAO (2021a). The State of Food and Agriculture 2021. Making agrifood systems more resilient to shocks and stresses. Rome, FAO. <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb4476en>.
- FAO (2021b). Guidance on core indicators for agrifood systems: Measuring the private sector's contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals. Rome: FAO. <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb6526en/>
- FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO (2022). In Brief to the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022: Repurposing food and agricultural policies to make healthy diets more affordable. Rome: FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc0640en>
- IPCC (2022). Climate change 2022: Impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Edited by H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, M. Tignor, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Löschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, B. Rama.
- IPES-Food (2022). 'Another perfect storm?: How the failure to reform food systems has allowed the war in Ukraine to spark a third global food price crisis in 15 years, and what can be done to prevent the next one. [https://www.ipes-food.org/\\_img/upload/files/AnotherPerfectStorm.pdf](https://www.ipes-food.org/_img/upload/files/AnotherPerfectStorm.pdf)
- Jordi, N. (2022). 'WEFE Nexus Community of Practice: A solution for the Mediterranean future', *PRIMA*, 11 February. <https://prima-med.org/wefe-nexus-community-of-practice-a-solution-for-the-mediterranean-future/>
- UNEP (2021). Annual Report. Nairobi: UN Environment Programme.
- UN General Assembly (2022). 'A/77/177: The right to food and the coronavirus disease pandemic', note by the Secretary-General, Seventy-seventh session, Item 69 (b) of the provisional agenda: Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms. 18 July. <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N22/428/88/PDF/N2242888.pdf?OpenElement>



## Transformation 5.

### It all starts with a target: The case for measurable targets on the EU's material footprint

**Lisa Tostado**

Head of International Climate, Energy and Agriculture  
Policy Program, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung European Union



**Europe's transition to a circular economy requires plans with ambitious and measurable targets to tackle consumption** patterns and the environmental impacts associated with them. Even though the EU is a global leader in circular-economy policies (*Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2020; INEC and OREE, 2020*), the European Green Deal itself notes that measures so far have been insufficient, and that 'consumption of materials and energy [...] has continued to increase'. The EU's per capita material footprint has not changed significantly for about a decade, and is approximately twice what is considered sustainable and just (Bolger et al., 2021; Bringezu, 2015; Friends of the Earth, 2022). A review of EU policy measures, strategies and programmes, shows that circular economy objectives remain mostly discursive and ambiguous, lacking measurable and ambitious goals, including clear milestones and reduction pathways.

As part of the Green Deal, the European Commission published its Circular Economy Action Plan (CEAP) in March 2020. The plan outlines 35 actions related to natural resources use, product and systems design, and waste management. Although having this plan is a clear step forward, a crucial piece of the puzzle is still missing: the Commission backtracked on its goal to set an absolute reduction target for its material

footprint (that is, independent of economic growth). It had initially aimed to reduce consumption by 50%, halving the volume of raw materials consumed in products and services, including imports. The final CEAP includes only a weak commitment to further develop indicators on resource use as part of its 'monitoring framework'.

The final CEAP is not coherent with recommendations from other EU institutions and experts. In 2021, the European Parliament backed a report urging the European Commission to set binding targets to reduce the EU's absolute material footprint (*European Parliament, 2021*). The 8<sup>th</sup> Environment Action Programme, which guides the Union's environmental policy, also stipulates that the EU must 'significantly decrease its material and consumption footprints to bring them into planetary boundaries as soon as possible, including through the introduction of Union 2030 reduction targets' (*European Union, 2022*).

The lack of clear EU-level targets in the CEAP to reduce the EU's ecological and material footprints is a significant missed opportunity.

Here is why.

First of all, the CEAP is failing to bring the EU's footprint into line with planetary boundaries, as stipulated in the 8<sup>th</sup> EAP: Europe is still overconsuming natural resources. Its material footprint is twice – or by some measures, three times – what is considered a sustainable level (Bringezu, 2015). An absolute reduction target of 50% would be a scientifically sound minimum. Reducing resource use only in relative terms, in relation to economic growth, is not a solution since it does not curb overconsumption.

Second, without a reduction in resource use, SDG 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and many other SDGs will remain out of reach. In its Green European Deal, the European Commission notes that 'resource extraction and processing account for more than 90% of global biodiversity loss and water stress impacts, and for approximately half of global climate change emissions'. Research shows clear links between the circular economy and SDG 6 (Clean water and sanitation), SDG 7 (Affordable and clean energy), SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth) and SDG 15 (Life on land) (*Khajuria et al., 2022; Schroeder et al., 2019; van Kruchten and van Eijk, 2020*). Recent scholars also suggest that a circular economy could support social goals such as SDG 1 (No poverty), SDG 2 (Zero hunger), SDG 3 (Good health and well-being), SDG 5 (Gender equality) and SDG 10 (Reduced inequalities) (*Sutherland and Kouloumpi, 2022; Schroeder et al., 2019*). Circular economy policies can also contribute to international peace by reducing the EU's dependence on imported and raw materials, which are often imported from countries under authoritarian regimes. This point is timelier than ever since Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Third, having a consumption target could allow discussions to move beyond eco-design and waste management to rethinking the way Europeans consume. There is no empirical evidence that economic growth can be decoupled from environmental pressures at the scale needed to deal with the various environmental crises (*Parrique et al., 2019*). Policymakers' current focus on green growth – building on the assumption that decoupling can be achieved through increased efficiency without limiting economic production and consumption – gives reason for concern. **But setting an absolute reduction target for the EU could open the door to a radical rethink of green growth policies.** Rather than pursuing incremental efficiency gains within established production and consumption systems, a deep transformation is required: including new ways of consuming, for example by owning less and sharing more. At the very least, agreeing on

an absolute reduction target – even if it is less ambitious than is needed – could spur deeper discussion on what growth, progress, well-being and sustainability really mean.

Fourth, having an absolute reduction target would similarly spur discussions around consumption-based indicators. These metrics are important tools for building awareness of the many negative spillovers the EU causes and designing policies to reduce the outsourcing of environmental problems. Data shows, for example, that since 1990, carbon emissions in the EU have slightly increased, not decreased, when taking imports into account (*Becqué et al., 2017*). **It is not sufficient to reduce emissions at home without also addressing imported emissions.** Sweden, for instance, may become the first country to set a consumption-based target to curb CO<sub>2</sub> emissions generated abroad to satisfy its domestic consumption (*Marczewski, 2022*). Could similar targets be set at the EU level, covering issues such as imported deforestation and the social impacts of consumption?

In terms of circular economy and zero pollution, the EU generates negative spillovers via imports as well as exports. One example is its continued export of highly hazardous pesticides that are no longer approved for use in the EU due to human health and environmental concerns. Under its 2020 Chemicals Strategy, the European Commission has pledged to outlaw such exports by 2023 (*European Commission, 2020*). The EU must do more to combat chemical pollution: both by improving environmental protection within the bloc and by not exporting its chemical pollution to the Global South, where poor and marginalised communities too often suffer the physical and mental health consequences of living in pollution hotspots (*United Nations, 2022*).

If EU institutions can eventually agree on an absolute reduction target, it could be outlined in a circular economy law (similar to the EU climate law) that incorporates clear mandatory

milestones. The target could be further broken down into specific material sub-group or sector targets that would support development of complementary indicators on land, water and carbon footprints as part of a circular economy monitoring framework. A 'Halving our Footprint' package, along the lines of the 'Fit for 55' package, could provide a comprehensive set of EU policy revisions and new laws. Metals should be the subject of a particularly important sub-target, as they represent a large share of Europe's total material consumption: the EU comprises just 6% of the world's population, yet it consumes 25% of the metals produced globally. Without drastic changes, EU metal consumption is predicted to grow at the fastest rate of all material groups, with a predicted 63% increase per capita by 2060 (*Bolger et al., 2021; OECD, 2019*). Both the green and digital transformations require the consumption of metals to be dramatically reduced.

Studies demonstrate, however, that Europe's material footprint can be reduced if the right policies are in place. The German Environment Agency has published research that presents different sustainability scenarios, and demonstrates how a combination of measures to promote energy efficiency, sustainable lifestyles, recycling, material substitution and the use of innovative materials could succeed in reducing the EU's footprint (Purr et al., 2019).

**Some countries and regions are already leading the way, taking real steps to reduce their consumption and set measurable targets.** The Netherlands, for instance, has the lowest material footprint in the EU and the highest rate of circular material use (*Langsdorf and Duins, 2021*). In 2016, the Dutch government set 2050 as its target for establishing a circular economy (and 2030 as an important milestone). By then, the use of abiotic primary raw materials – minerals, fossil raw materials and metals – is to be reduced by 50% from 2014 levels. *Langsdorf and Duins'* study identified five key actions that have contributed to the successful uptake of the Dutch circular economy programme so far:

1. **Bring stakeholders together** to address barriers and opportunities and to secure support
2. **Develop a vision by defining long-term goal and milestones**
3. **Identify key commodity cycles and develop transformation agendas by sector** (for example, biomass, plastics, construction)
4. **Ensure frequent feedback and monitoring**
5. **Legislate** (for example, through taxes and subsidies, regulations and standardisation) to create incentives for companies and social actors

The Dutch case also shows, however, that even in more ambitious member states, the substitution approach still prevails, and sufficiency concepts remain weak spots. For instance, the Dutch Transition Agenda on Construction focuses on switching to more sustainable and circular materials but gives little attention to alternative transportation or housing concepts that could reduce the need to build. To date, failure to meet the targets has not been penalised, further limiting the likelihood of success. Yet binding targets do exist in the waste sector, driven by European stipulations – which demonstrates how EU policies can give rise to stringent legislation in member states.

## Conclusion

While much international attention has been given to reducing carbon emissions linked to energy use, less attention has been directed at reducing material consumption. Yet the harsh reality is that the global circularity gap has worsened in the recent years – including in the EU. In the six years between the Paris and Glasgow climate conferences, the global economy consumed 70% more than the Earth could safely replenish (Circle Economy, 2022). Action is urgently needed, especially by countries whose most citizens are living well beyond the

planet's means, such as in the EU. There is a lack of critical analysis of the EU's overconsumption, and of actions to address it. While the European Commission has begun to consider ways to reduce the *impacts* of Europe's resource use, it has so far avoided setting any clear targets on reducing this use itself.

The circular economy narrative in Europe needs a shift. Too often, the focus is still on recycling and eco-design, whereas policies should instead be calling for actions to reduce, re-use and repair. A change in consumption patterns is vital to reduce the EU's absolute material footprint. Incorporating material footprints into the circular economy discussion should also put a spotlight on negative spillovers. Targets, too, are imperative: setting a measurable absolute reduction target for consumption would provide clear direction and drive action forward. This would help the EU to reach SDG 12 at home and become a more credible actor internationally, building support for circular economy policies in third countries.

## References

- Becqué, R., Dubsky, E., Hamza-Goodacre, D. and Lewis, M. (2017). Europe's Carbon Loophole. Climate Works Foundation.
- Bolger, M., Marin, D., Tofighi-Niaki, A. and Seelmann, L. (2021). 'Green mining' is a myth: The case for cutting EU resource consumption. Brussels: European Environmental Bureau and Friends of the Earth Europe. <https://friendsoftheearth.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Green-mining-myth-report.pdf>
- Bringezu, S. (2015). 'Possible target corridor for sustainable use of global material resources', *Resources*, 4(1), pp. 25–54. <https://doi.org/10.3390/resources4010025>
- Circle Economy (2022). Circularity Gap Report 2022. <https://www.circularity-gap.world/2022#Download-the-report>
- Ellen MacArthur Foundation (2020). The EU's circular economy action plan. <https://emf.thirdlight.com/link/13i96x2za3la-8o3wq5/@/preview/1>
- European Commission (2020). Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions – Chemicals strategy for sustainability towards a toxic-free environment. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2020%3A667%3AFIN>
- European Parliament (2021). 'Circular economy: MEPs call for tighter EU consumption and recycling rules', *News*, 10 February. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20210204IPR97114/circular-economy-meps-call-for-tighter-eu-consumption-and-recycling-rules>
- European Union (2022). Decision (EU) 2022/591 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 April 2022 on a General Union Environment Action Programme to 2030. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec/2022/591/oj>
- Friends of the Earth (2022). Climate crisis is the symptom, Overconsumption is the disease. <https://overconsumption.friendsoftheearth.eu/>
- INEC and OREE (2020). Les réseaux majeurs de l'économie circulaire en Europe [Major circular economy networks in Europe]. <https://institut-economie-circulaire.fr/new-l-publication-etude-reseaux-majeurs-de-leconomie-circulaire-en-europe/>
- Khajuria, A., Atienza, V.A., Chavanich, S., Henning, W., Islam, I., Kral, U., Liu, M., Liu, X., Murthy, I.K., Oyedotun, T.D.T., Verma, P., Xu, G., Zeng, X. and Li, J. (2022). Accelerating circular economy solutions to achieve the 2030 agenda for sustainable development goals. *Circular Economy*, 1(1), p. 100001. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cec.2022.100001>
- Langsdorf, S. and Duins, L. (2021). Absolute Reduktion der Ressourcennutzung [Absolute reduction of resource use]. <https://www.ecologic.eu/18148>
- Marczewski, J. (2022). 'Sweden is the first country to target emissions from imported goods', *World Time Today's*, 16 April. <https://worldtimetodays.com/sweden-is-the-first-country-to-target-emissions-from-imported-goods/>

---

OECD (2019). Global material resources outlook to 2060: Economic drivers and environmental consequences. Paris: OECD Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264307452-en>

Parrique, T., Barth, J., Briens, F., Kerschner, C., Kraus-Polk, A., Kuokkanen, A. and Spangenberg, J. H. (2019). Decoupling debunked: Evidence and arguments against green growth as a sole strategy for sustainability. <https://eeb.org/library/decoupling-debunked/>

Purr, K., Günther, J., Lehmann, H. and Nuss, P. (2019). Wege in eine ressourcenschonende Treibhausgasneutralität—RESCUE Studie [Pathways to resource-efficient greenhouse gas neutrality-RESCUE Study]. <https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.31423.43682>

Schroeder, P., Anggraeni, K. and Weber, U. (2019). 'The relevance of circular economy practices to the Sustainable Development Goals', *Journal of Industrial Ecology*, 23(1), pp. 77–95. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jiec.12732>

Sutherland, A.B. and Kouloumpi, I. (2022). More than just SDG 12: How circular economy can bring holistic wellbeing. <https://sdg.iisd.org:443/commentary/guest-articles/more-than-just-sdg-12-how-circular-economy-can-bring-holistic-wellbeing/>

United Nations (2022) The right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment: Non-toxic environment (A/HRC/49/53). <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3957797?ln=en>

van Kruchten, S. and van Eijk, F. (2020). Circular economy and SDGs: How circular economy practices help to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. [https://circulareconomy.europa.eu/platform/sites/default/files/3228\\_brochure\\_sdg\\_-\\_hch\\_cmyk\\_a4\\_portrait\\_-\\_0520-012.pdf](https://circulareconomy.europa.eu/platform/sites/default/files/3228_brochure_sdg_-_hch_cmyk_a4_portrait_-_0520-012.pdf)

## Transformation 6.

### Digitalization for a just transition: enhancing EU policy coherence to address the impacts of the digital transition

**Antoine Oger**

Head of Programme, Global Challenges and SDGs,  
Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)



Digital technologies are increasingly present in today's societies, and their impact on our environment is growing in tandem. Policymakers need to respond to digital transition, to guarantee environmental justice and ensure that the transition is not fuelling inequalities (Qureshi, 2021). In a context of sustainability, the challenges of digitisation concern both sustainable digitalisation – reducing the energy consumption footprint of these technologies, for example – and digitalisation for sustainability – such as using digital tools to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the fields of mobility, energy or production (Wagner and Lange, 2021).

#### Managing the rise in electronic waste

Digitalisation and sustainability are presented in a favourable light in EU policy documents (for example, European Commission, 2022), with considerable faith put in digital tools to further the green transition. However, research shows that in fact digitalisation has a slight net negative effect on the environment (Lange and Santarius, 2020).

The internet is responsible for as much as 3.8% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

(Bordage, 2021) – which is more than the 2.5% share of international air traffic (Lee et al., 2021) – and these emissions are increasing by about 9% per year (Shift Project, 2019). The situation poses a challenge for the SDGs, especially SDG 13 on climate action. Internet connectivity rates are strongly linked to income, which brings a strong degree of carbon inequality into these numbers (Poushter, 2016), adding a challenge to SDG 10 on reduced inequalities.

Consumption of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) is expected to continue to grow in the EU and globally (Grand View Research, 2014)<sup>1</sup>. Consumption correlates with strong negative environmental and social consequences along the information and communication technologies (ICT) value chain (Benqassem et al., 2021). Upstream, the mining activities that satisfy European demand for EEE, and which mostly take place outside the EU (Eurometaux, 2022), generate negative effects on manufacturing workers, particularly women (Björnsson, 2020), as well as their communities. The effects include forced displacement, restricted access to clean land and water, and harassment by mine operators or even governments (OXFAM, 2022).

The increasing demand for EEE also translates into e-waste becoming the world's fastest-growing domestic waste stream (UNEP, 2021). Globally, the e-waste generated in 2019 was estimated to amount to 53.6 million tonnes, of which close to 80% had an uncertain destination. It ended up either in landfills, burned, illegally traded or disposed of by informal workers in poor

1. See also Fortune Business Insights (2021): the global market for electronic components predicted to grow at a compound annual growth rate of approximately 5% from 2020 to 2027.



conditions, leading to GHG emissions and soil or water contamination (PACE, 2019). Exposure to e-waste can have serious negative health consequences, as it contains highly carcinogenic substances such as mercury, lead and cadmium (PACE, 2019). Eurostat reports that in 2019, the EU exported 119,279 tonnes of e-waste containing hazardous substances and 14,557 tonnes of non-hazardous e-waste (Eurostat, 2022). However, it is also estimated that 1.3 million tonnes of discarded electronics departed the EU in undocumented mixed exports in 2015 – 30% in the form of e-waste and 70% in the form of functioning equipment (UNU, 2015). Around 4.7 million tonnes are mismanaged or illegally traded within Europe each year. These trends are expected to grow, with e-waste generation projected to increase by 2% per year (European Commission, 2020c), to reach 74 million tonnes by 2030 (Forti et al., 2020).

Due to a lack of transparency and legal enforcements, the impact of e-waste generation, trade, collection and processing often remain unaddressed (Basel Action Network, 2018). Under its Circular Economy Action Plan, the EU launched a flurry of regulations to increase circularity and mitigate the environmental and social impacts of the electronics sector<sup>2</sup> (European Commission, 2020). It also recently launched a proposal on waste shipment and trafficking to tackle the export of illegal waste, including e-waste (European Commission, 2021b). Under recent amendments to the Basel Convention, export and import of e-waste, hazardous or not, must now comply with notification and consent requirements between export and importer countries (UNEP, 2022). These are important policy tools, but recognition of these spillover effects and impacts in terms of environmental justice is still underdeveloped and under-prioritised within

EU policymaking. For instance, these regulations create a risk of 'material leakage' – substitution of exports to non-EU markets with lower environmental standards for treating e-waste (Brink et al., 2021).

### Adapting to digitalisation in agriculture

Digitalisation is considered to be a game-changer in agriculture (European Commission, 2019). By making production, processing and trade more efficient, digitalisation raises farmers' incomes and enables more sustainable farming practices.

Numerous policy agendas, including the European Commission Global Gateway Strategy (European Commission, 2021a) and UNFCCC National Adaptation Plans, view digital agriculture as having the power to leapfrog development pathways in the Global South (Stephenson et al., 2021). Yet, one undesired social repercussion of digital agriculture is the digital divide (Mehrabi et al., 2021), which is a gap in access to digital tools because of either a lack of effective access or a lack of skills to use them.

'Smart' or 'precision' farming, for instance, has been proposed as a means of farming more efficiently. The approach involves using sensors, machines, drones, satellites and smartphone applications to monitor animals, soil, water and plants. However, studies raise concerns about its adverse consequences on the environment and on the autonomy of farmers and animals, as well as the power imbalances associated with data ownership (Klerkx et al., 2019).

### The environmental justice implications of digital technologies

Emerging technologies (for example, artificial intelligence and e-commerce) have important implications for the environment in terms of the energy they use for data servers, storage and processing. Through the Digital Markets

2. Relevant regulations include a common charger initiative, batteries regulation, sustainable products initiatives, eco-design initiatives on smartphones and computers, and sustainable consumption of goods. These regulations promote repair and reuse, and review of EU rules on restrictions of hazardous substances in EEEs, the European Green Deal data space and the Data Act.

Act and Digital Services Act, the EU has tried to address the social consequences of digitalisation (for example, market tipping, lock-in-effects, rent extraction, tax avoidance, labour rights violations, data abuse, mass surveillance and dark patterns), but current legislations barely address environmental concerns (Piétron et al., 2022). In addition, while the sustainability of e-commerce, online platforms and the sharing economy has come under increased scrutiny (Zarra et al., 2019), related concerns around environmental justice are still largely unexplored.

Some commentators have argued that EU data governance is becoming fragmented (Lopez Solano et al., 2022) and that a new approach to 'data justice' is needed. According to Lopez Solano et al., (2022), 'a data justice approach is one that centres on equity, the recognition and representation of plural interests, and the creation and preservation of public goods as its principal goals'. The EU should define laws to limit the power of both public and private actors that perform public functions while using digital data tools, to make them more accountable to the population.

### **An example of best practice: greener data servers**

Data centres that house the hardware and software required to run cloud applications worldwide consume as much as 2% of the global energy demand (Hintemann, 2018). Energy is necessary to power the servers and to cool down the excess heat they produce, and energy is again required to let out the excess heat into the surrounding environment. Data centres are responsible for nearly 1% of global energy-related GHG emissions (International Energy Agency, 2022) – a figure that will increase in the coming years as the number of internet users continues to rise (it grew by 60% worldwide between 2015 and 2021). Efforts should therefore be made to power data centres and networks through renewable sources of energy that will lower their GHG emissions.

Several experiments have already started to collect the waste heat generated by data centres and use it to warm nearby commercial and residential buildings. Amazon, for instance, uses the heat from their data centres to heat their own campus in Seattle (Roberts, 2017). Other big technology corporations and public administrations have used similar approaches to provide energy to public heating systems that then redistribute the heat to residents. Such schemes can be found with Meta in Denmark (Leprince-Ringuet, 2020), Microsoft in Finland (Golden, 2022) and Amazon in Dublin (O'Shea, 2018). Although the positive consequences of such initiatives are significant, further research must be done to adequately assess their cost-benefits and potential adverse spillover effects.

Beyond energy use, data centres and data transmission networks pose other environmental impacts, through water use (Mytton, 2021) and, again, generation of electronic waste (Forti et al., 2020). Dedicated policies and regulations should ensure that these aspects are also considered, for instance through flexible energy prices and zero taxation of waste heat that is used in urban zones to develop energy-efficient technology and thermal networks (International Energy Agency, 2022).

### **Recommendations**

The practices mentioned above should inspire larger scale experiments to bring together digitalisation and environmental justice. Most importantly, digital market regulations at the EU level should better integrate environmental concerns. In preparing such regulations, the impact assessments led by the European Commission should acknowledge the differentiated impact of digital solutions across populations, as well as their rebound effects, costs and benefits in terms of systemic changes.

As digital technologies (for example, sharing technologies, online platforms, e-commerce models, artificial intelligence, crypto currencies, blockchain) are growing rapidly, further research



is needed to understand their implications for environmental justice in the EU. The sustainability implications of these technologies are not fully understood, which makes it difficult to prepare a coherent policy response. Studies should examine the disaggregated impacts on different groups, distributive impacts and alternative models.

Sectoral initiatives with important implications for digitalisation and environmental justice in the EU should complement the overall strategy. The following initiatives are recommended:

1. Increase circularity in the ICT value chain to reduce resource inputs, environmental impacts and potential spillovers.
2. Tax electronic goods and waste. The polluter pays principle is underused in the EU, and despite political commitments, the share of environmental taxation reduced over the last decade (Milios, 2021).
3. Provide for more Trade and Sustainable Development chapters in future EU trade deals, particularly with countries that are important sources of ICT products or raw materials, or are destinations for EEE waste (Blot et al., 2022a; Blot et al., 2022b).
4. Investigate ways of reaching the 2030 material use targets within the ICT industry, aiming towards consumption footprints within planetary boundaries by 2050, as called for by the European Parliament (2021).
5. Shift focus towards developing digital tools for food systems, as opposed to solely for agricultural production.

## References

- Basel Action Network (2018). Holes in the circular economy: WEEE leakage from Europe, A report of the e-Trash Transparency Project. [http://wiki.ban.org/images/f/f4/Holes\\_in\\_the\\_Circular\\_Economy-WEEE\\_Leakage\\_from\\_Europe.pdf](http://wiki.ban.org/images/f/f4/Holes_in_the_Circular_Economy-WEEE_Leakage_from_Europe.pdf)
- Benqassem, S., Bordage, F., de Montenay, L., Delmas-Orgelet, J., Domon, F., Lees Perasso, E., Prunel, D. and Vateau, C. (2021). Digital technologies in Europe: An environmental life cycle approach. <http://extranet.greens-efa-service.eu/public/media/file/1/7388>
- Björnsson, O. (2020). Toxic Tech: Occupational poisoning in ICT manufacturing. Swedwatch. [https://swedwatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/98\\_Filipinerna\\_200616\\_Uppslag.pdf](https://swedwatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/98_Filipinerna_200616_Uppslag.pdf)
- Bordage, F. (2021). Environmental footprint of the digital world. Green IT. <https://www.greenit.fr/environmental-footprint-of-the-digital-world/>
- Brink, H., Lucas, P., Baldé, C. P., and Kuehr, R. (2021). Potential effects of Dutch circular economy strategies on low- and middle-income countries: The case of electrical and electronic equipment. The Hague: PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency. [https://www.pbl.nl/sites/default/files/downloads/pbl-2021-potential-effects-of-dutch-circular-economy-strategies-on\\_low-and-middle-income-countries\\_4312.pdf](https://www.pbl.nl/sites/default/files/downloads/pbl-2021-potential-effects-of-dutch-circular-economy-strategies-on_low-and-middle-income-countries_4312.pdf)
- Eurometaux (2022). Metals mining and production. <https://eurometaux.eu/about-our-industry/the-metals-story/production/?5>
- European Commission (2019). A European Green Deal: Striving to the first climate-neutral continent. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en)
- European Commission (2020). Circular Economy Action Plan. [https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/circular-economy-action-plan\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/circular-economy-action-plan_en)
- European Commission (2021a). Global Gateway. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/stronger-europe-world/global-gateway\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/stronger-europe-world/global-gateway_en)
- European Commission (2021b). Proposal for a new regulation on waste shipments. [https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/proposal-new-regulation-waste-shipments\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/proposal-new-regulation-waste-shipments_en)

- European Commission (2022). The Digital Europe Programme. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>
- European Parliament (2021). Resolution 10 February 2021 on the new Circular Economy Action Plan. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2021-0040\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2021-0040_EN.html)
- Forti, V., Baldé, C.P., Kuehr, R. and Bel, G. (2020). The global e-waste monitor 2020. [https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Environment/Documents/Toolbox/GEM\\_2020\\_def.pdf](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Environment/Documents/Toolbox/GEM_2020_def.pdf)
- Fortune Business Insights (2021). Consumer electronics market size, share & COVID-19 impact analysis. <https://www.fortunebusinessinsights.com/consumer-electronics-market-104693>
- Golden, S. (2022). 'The data center that warms homes with waste heat', *Greenbiz*, 31 March. <https://www.greenbiz.com/article/data-center-warms-homes-waste-heat>
- Grand View Research (2014). Consumer electronics market analysis by product (smartphones, tablets, desktops, laptops/notebooks, digital cameras, hard disk drives, e-readers) and segment forecasts to 2020. <https://www.grandviewresearch.com/industry-analysis/personal-consumer-electronics-market>
- Hintemann, R. (2018). Efficiency gains are not enough: Data center energy consumption continues to rise significantly. Borderstep Institute for Innovation and Sustainability. [https://www.borderstep.de/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Borderstep-Datacenter-2018\\_en.pdf](https://www.borderstep.de/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Borderstep-Datacenter-2018_en.pdf)
- International Energy Agency (2022). Data centres and data transmission networks. Paris: IEA. <https://www.iea.org/reports/data-centres-and-data-transmission-networks>
- Klerkx, L., Jakku, E. and Labarthe, P. (2019). 'Social, economic and institutional dynamics of digital agriculture', *NJAS – Wageningen Journal of Life Sciences*. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/njas-wageningen-journal-of-life-sciences/special-issue/10TG0PSF9J>
- Lange, S. and Santarius, T. (2020). *Smart green world?: Making digitalization work for sustainability*. London: Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003030881>
- Lee, D.S., Fahey, D.W., Skowron, A., Allen, M.R., Burkhardt, U., Chen, Q., Doherty, S.J., Freeman, S., Forster, P.M., Fuglestedt, J., Gettelman, A., De León, R.R., Lim, L.L., Lund, M.T., Millar, R.J., Owen, B., Penner, J.E., Pitari, G., Prather, M.J., et al. (2021). 'The contribution of global aviation to anthropogenic climate forcing for 2000 to 2018', *Atmospheric Environment*, 244, p. 117834. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.atmosenv.2020.117834>
- Leprince-Ringuet, D. (2020). 'Facebook is recycling heat from its data centers to warm up these homes', *ZDNET*, 8 July. <https://www.zdnet.com/article/facebook-is-recycling-heat-from-its-data-centers-to-warm-up-these-homes/>
- Lopez Solano, J., Martin, A., de Souza, S. and Taylor, L. (2022). Governing data and artificial intelligence for all: Models for sustainable and just data governance. Brussels: European Union. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2022/729533/EPRS\\_STU\(2022\)729533\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2022/729533/EPRS_STU(2022)729533_EN.pdf)
- Mehrabi, Z., McDowell, M.J., Ricciardi, V., Levers, C., Martinez, J.D., Mehrabi, N., Wittman, H., Ramankutty, N. and Jarvis, A. (2021). 'The global divide in data-driven farming', *Nature Sustainability*, 4(2), pp. 154–160. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-020-00631-0>
- Milios, L. (2021). 'Towards a circular economy taxation framework: Expectations and challenges of implementation', *Circular Economy and Sustainability*, 1(2), pp. 477–498. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s43615-020-00002-z>
- Mytton, D. (2021). 'Data centre water consumption', *npj Clean Water*, 4(1), Article 11. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41545-021-00101-w>
- O'Shea, J. (2018) Tallaght District Heating Scheme. Codema Energy Efficiency Agency Dublin. <https://www.codema.ie/projects/local-projects/tallaght-district-heating-scheme/>
- OXFAM (2022). Impacts of Mining. <https://www.oxfam.org.au/what-we-do/economic-inequality/mining/impacts-of-mining/>
- PACE (2019). A new circular vision for electronics: Time for a global reboot. [https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_A\\_New\\_Circular\\_Vision\\_for\\_Electronics.pdf](https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_A_New_Circular_Vision_for_Electronics.pdf)
- Piétron, D., Staab, P. and Hofmann, F. (2022). Sustainable digital market design: A data-based approach to the circular economy. ECDf Working Paper Series #001. <https://depositonce.tu-berlin.de/items/8b1ae0f9-68d3-431b-bde9-d467db1dbe8d>

- 
- Poushter, J. (2016). Smartphone ownership and internet usage continues to climb in emerging economies. Washington, DC: Pew Research Center's Global Attitudes Project. <https://www.pewresearch.org/global/2016/02/22/internet-access-growing-worldwide-but-remains-higher-in-advanced-economies/>
- Qureshi, Z. (2021). Technology, growth, and inequality: Changing dynamics in the digital era. Brookings. <https://www.brookings.edu/research/technology-growth-and-inequality-changing-dynamics-in-the-digital-era/>
- Roberts, D. (2017). 'Amazon's Seattle campus is using a data center next door as a furnace. It's pretty neat', *Vox*, 22 November. <https://www.vox.com/energy-and-environment/2017/11/22/16684102/amazon-data-center-district-heating>
- Stephenson, J., Chellew, T., von Kockritz, L., Rose, A. and Dinesh, D. (2021). Digital agriculture to enable adaptation: A supplement to the UNFCCC NAP Technical Guidelines. CCAFS Working Paper no. 372. Wageningen: CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security. <https://unfccc.int/documents/384493>
- UNEP (2021). 'The growing footprint of digitalisation', *Foresight Brief*, 27. <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/37439/FB027.pdf>
- UNEP (2022). 'BRS COPs conclude with major decisions on e-waste movement and ban of harmful chemicals affecting firefighters', UN Environment Programme press releases, 17 June. <http://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/brs-cops-conclude-major-decisions-e-waste-movement-and-ban-harmful>
- UNU (2015). 'Discarded electronics mismanaged within Europe equals ~10 times the volume of e-waste exported', United Nations University press releases, 2 September. <https://unu.edu/media-relations/releases/discarded-electronics-mismanaged-in-europe-is-10x-volume-of-e-waste-exports.html>
- Wagner, J. and Lange, S. (2021). Digitalization and Sustainability at EU-level.
- Zarra, A., Simonelli, F., Lenaerts, K., Luo, M., Baiocco, S., Shenglin, B., Li, W., Echikson, W. and Kilhoffer, Z. (2019). Sustainability in the Age of Platforms. SSRN Scholarly Paper No. 3610672. <https://papers.ssrn.com/abstract=3610672>

## Making it count: measuring the economic value of the European natural capital

This article is based on Koundouri, P. et al. (2022). *Financing the joint implementation of Agenda 2030 and the European Green Deal*.

### Prof. Phoebe Koundouri

Professor School of Economics and Director of ReSEES Research Laboratory, Athens University of Economics and Business; Chair SDSN Global Climate Hub; Co-chair SDSN Europe & Greece; Professor, Department of Technology Management and Economics, Denmark Technical University.

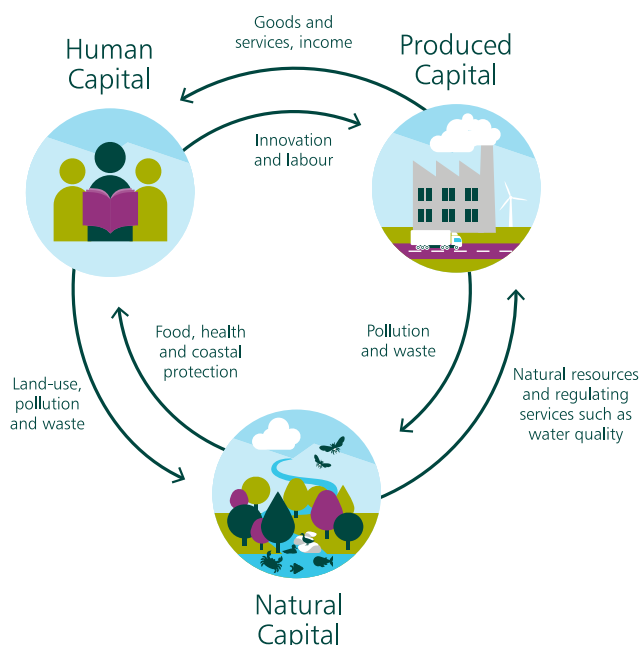


Economic value that is derived from natural resources and the environment is too often overlooked by markets. The non-market values of resources such as outdoor recreation and landscape amenity, as well as non-use values (for example, the importance people give to specific habitats or species), are too often ignored by policy makers. This is due to 'market failures', by which, despite the obvious importance of these values, many ecosystem services are not traded in markets and therefore do not have a price. Total Economic Value (TEV), however, represents the total benefit in well-being resulting from a policy, which is a sum of the people's willingness to pay (WTP) and their willingness to accept the policy (WTA).

Ecosystem services provided by natural resources such as food, water, shelter or climate regulation, bring a flow of benefits to both people and the economy. However, natural capital, human capital and produced capital all interact with and rely on each other – and as natural capital faces increasing pressure from climate change and biodiversity loss, humans and businesses are exposed to greater risks (see Figure 3.4).

**Debating and determining the value of European ecosystem services is indispensable for informed decision-making.**

**Figure 3.4 |** The relationship between different types of capital



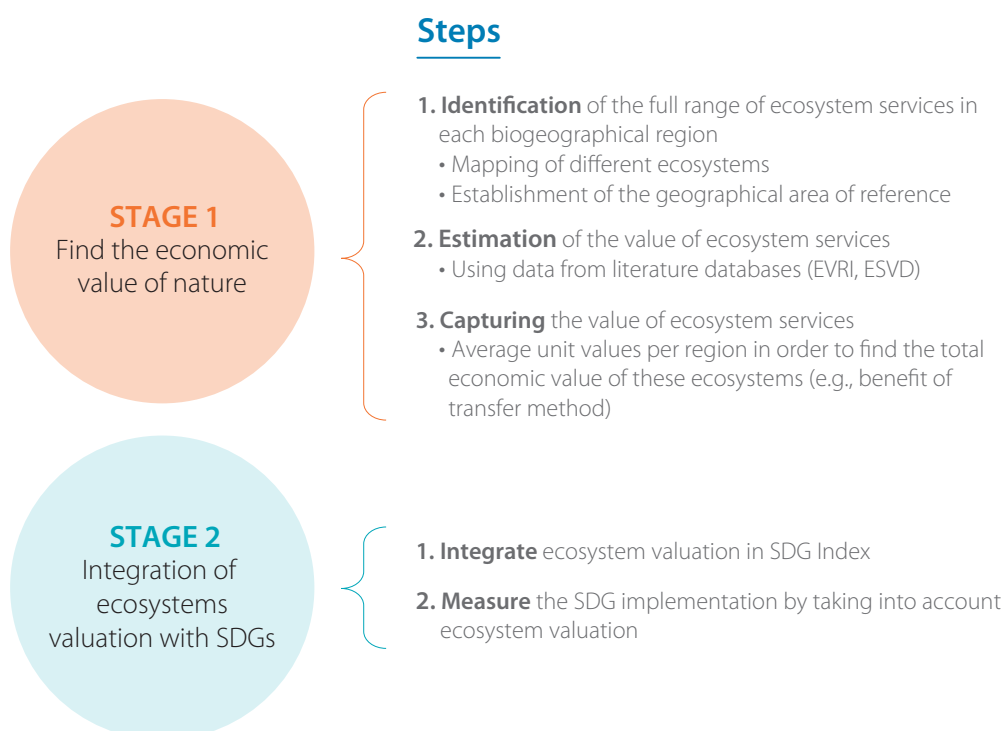
Valuing ecosystem services ensures that policy decisions take stock of the costs and benefits related to the natural environment and their implications for human well-being. Indeed, the term 'ecosystem services' indicates the link between natural capital and the economy, which corresponds to the utility people derive from exploiting such ecosystems. According to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment there are four categories of ecosystem services: provisioning services (such as water, food or fibre); regulating services (climate regulation, water regulation, pollination); cultural services (recreation, aesthetic, spiritual and religious heritage); and supporting services (nutrient

cycling, soil formation, primary production) (Reid et al., 2005).<sup>11</sup>

To date, metrics like gross domestic product and even the UN Human Development Index have been limited to measuring economic progress and human well-being, failing to sufficiently factor in the contribution of ecosystem service benefits such as pollination, regulation, or nature's ability to mitigate disasters. **This inability to account for the total economic value of ecosystems, added to the vicious cycle of overproduction and overexploitation, has led to the**

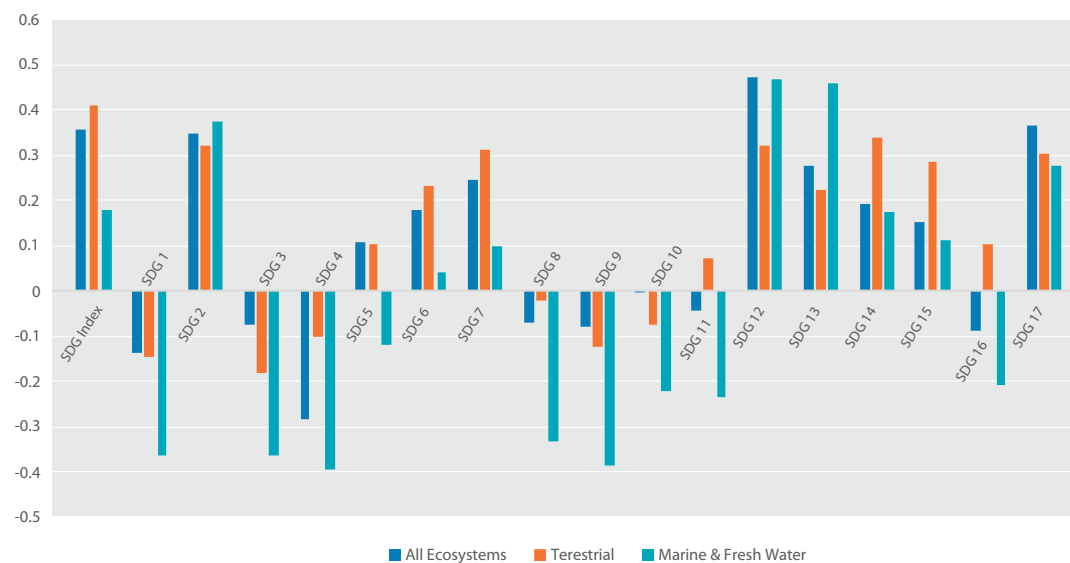
1. The Millennium Ecological Assessment was a four-year multinational work programme aimed at providing decision-makers with a scientific understanding of the relationships between ecosystem change and human well-being. The assessment looked at the effects of ecosystem changes on human well-being. Between 2001 and 2005, more than 1,360 experts from around the world worked on this project. Their findings provide a scientific demonstration of the current state of flux that ecosystems and the services they provide are in. These experts also explained how to protect and use these ecosystems in a way that is healthy for the planet and for people.

Figure 3.5 | A 2-stage approach for the Valuation of Ecosystems



**Figure 3.6 |** Cross-sectional correlation coefficients between EU-27 MWTP estimates and SDG Index Scores and the Scores for all the 17 underlying goals for all ecosystems and the three ecosystem services categories, respectively

Cross sectional correlation of UN SDSN Index scores and ecosystem MWTP, by SDG



Cross sectional correlation of UN SDSN Index Scores and provisioning ecosystem service MWTP, by SDG

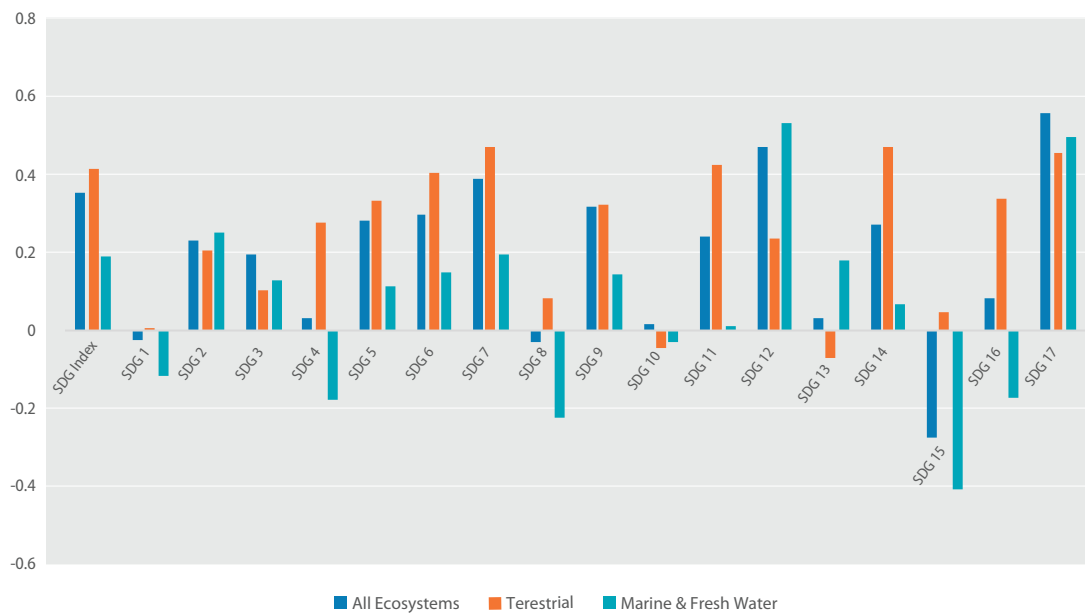


Figure 3.6 | (cont.)

Cross sectional correlation of UN SDSN Index scores and regulating ecosystem service MWTP, by SDG



Cross sectional correlation of UN SDSN Index scores and supporting ecosystem service MWTP, by SDG



Sources: Author's elaboration based on Lafortune et al. (2021) and EEA (2015).

**degradation of ecosystem services, jeopardising growth and prosperity.** To invert this trajectory and prevent further degradation, it is pivotal to incorporate the economic value of ecosystem services into public and private decision-making.

The valuation method was chosen considering the type of ecosystem service and the amount and quality of data available. A two-stage approach was used to estimate the value of ecosystem services in Europe (Figure 3.5), with the ultimate objective of integrating the unit value of ecosystems into the SDG index, to enabling us to measure the socioeconomic value of moving from the current ecosystems status to full achievement of the SDGs.

For the economic valuation, a meta-regression analysis was conducted using the publicly accessible EVRI database (environmental valuation reference inventory). A typology of ecosystems (terrestrial, marine and freshwater) was determined based on the MAES mapping and assessment of ecosystems and their services typology (EEA, 2015). Ecosystem services are distinguished into provisioning, regulating, cultural and supporting services. The geographical area of the study was defined according to the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).

Empirical results depicting marginal willingness to pay by ecosystem and country show that in most EU countries (17 out of 27), willingness to pay for the improvement of marine and freshwater ecosystems exceeds willingness to pay for improvement of the terrestrial ecosystem. One probable explanation is that inhabitants of these countries recognise that marine and aquatic ecosystems are at a higher risk of collapse than terrestrial ecosystems, and thus are eager to spend part of their income on their restoration. Another argument could be that people who live in these countries feel they depend more on the marine or aquatic environment than on that of the land, because of fishing, tourism, etc., and thus are more willing to help protect it.

Finding a balance between socioeconomic development and ecosystem services is a crucial challenge for sustainable development (McCartney et al., 2014). The next step was therefore to examine the correlation between willingness to pay and the EU's level of SDG achievement as a whole. For this exercise, SDG country scores from the SDSN Europe Sustainable Development Report 2021<sup>2</sup> were correlated with country's marginal willingness to pay (MWTP) scores. In this analysis, a positive correlation means that a high level of MWTP is associated with a high level of achievement of a specific SDG. The closer the correlation is to 1, the stronger the convergence. Conversely, a negative correlation means that a high (or low) level of MWTP is associated with a low (or high) level of achievement of a specific SDG. Again, the closer the correlation is to -1, the stronger the (negative) convergence. The analysis showed a strong overall convergence between MWTP and SDG scores. Figure 3.6 provides cross-sectional correlation coefficients between overall EU-27 MWTP estimates and SDG Index scores for all ecosystems as well as for two categories of ecosystem services.

Natural capital should not only be addressed in policy decisions but should also be a crucial factor in financial decisions and the appraisal of private-sector investments. With an increasing number of companies engaging in environmental, social and governance strategies, it is crucial to combine standard measures of corporate financial performance with measures of their social and environmental impact. After monetizing environmental impacts via ecosystem services valuation (which should be extended to social capital monetization), hybrid metrics should be used to directly link social and environmental performance with financial performance. Environmental, social and governance criteria are used to establish the most relevant 'do no significant harm' domains for sustainable financing (Migliorelli, 2021). Several studies (for example, Yilan et al., 2022)

2. <https://eu-dashboards.sdgindex.org/profiles>



have shown the importance of having accurate measurements and guidelines available to back up corporate claims of sustainability by assessing environmental problems and actions related to sustainable finance.

Furthermore, although national development priorities around the globe are aligned with the vision of the SDGs, these remain insufficient to make sustainable development a reality. To achieve the goals by 2050, governments and policymakers must build them effectively into national and subnational development plans and strategies. Cost-benefit analysis and more precisely social cost benefit analysis are essential tools when evaluating investment decisions from a society perspective, rather than purely from the perspective of maximizing economic benefits. But choosing an appropriate discount rate is crucial.

Cost and social cost benefit analysis of projects with long-term benefits, such as environmental projects and those related to climate change, have to take the increased uncertainty of economic growth rates into consideration. The formula for the discount rate must be adjusted so that it decreases over time. The choice of an appropriate social discount rate has important consequences for the current values that determine the outcome of the social cost benefit analysis. If a high social discount rate is chosen, less money will be spent on social services and the public sector will be smaller. A low social discount rate implies that more money will be spent on social services and on a bigger public sector.

The use of declining discount rates instead of fixed interest rates has serious economic consequences: it means that policymakers should work harder to boost social benefits in the long term than in the short term. In other words, using a discount rate that decreases over time increases the importance attached to the welfare of future generations, making it more suited for evaluating long-term environmental projects (Gollier et al., 2008, Hepburn et al., 2009).

In conclusion, the value of natural capital to people and to the environment is undeniable. However, the benefits offered by nature and collectively known as ecosystem services – including food, water, shelter and climate regulation – are often underestimated in the market. This inability to account for the whole economic worth of ecosystems, combined with the vicious cycle of overproduction and overexploitation, has resulted in the degradation of ecosystem services, threatening current and future growth and prosperity.

When it comes to the total economic value of ecosystem services within the EU-27, empirical findings indicate that willingness to pay for ecosystem services varies according to ecosystem type (terrestrial, marine, freshwater), and that citizen engagement and willingness to pay for environmental protection could impact a country's SDG scores. The inclusion of natural capital in investment decisions, for instance through the employment of social discount rates, is critical.

### References

- Dasgupta, P. (2021). *The economics of biodiversity: The Dasgupta review. Abridged version*. London: HM Treasury. [https://www.wellbeingintlstudiesrepository.org/es\\_ee/2/](https://www.wellbeingintlstudiesrepository.org/es_ee/2/)
- EEA (2015). MAES Typology for ecosystem classification (European ecosystem assessment-concept, data and implementation. European Environment Agency EEA Technical Report, No 6/2015. <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/european-ecosystem-assessment>
- Gollier, C., Koundouri, P. and Pantelidis, T. (2008). 'Declining discount rates: Economic justifications and implications for long-run policy', *Economic Policy*, 23(56), pp. 758–795. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-0327.2008.00211.x>
- Hepburn, C., Koundouri, P., Panopoulou, E. and Pantelidis, T. (2009). 'Social discounting under uncertainty: A cross-country comparison', *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 57(2), pp. 140–150. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jeem.2008.04.004>
- Koundouri, P., Tessari, F., Spani, R., Romani, I., Patel, K., Hansmeyer, C., Wetzels, D., Becchetti, L., Cordella, M., Morone, P., Plataniotis, A., Landis, C., Stavridis, C., Chioatto, E., Halkos, G., Theodossiou, N., Devves, S., Zachariadis, T. and Brunnhuber, S. (2022). Financing the joint implementation of Agenda 2030 and the European Green Deal. 2nd Report of the SDSN Senior Working Group on the European Green Deal. <https://resources.unsdsn.org/financing-the-joint-implementation-of-agenda-2030-and-the-european-green-deal>
- McCartney, M., Finlayson, M., de Silva, S., Amerasinghe, P. and Smakhtin, V. (2014). *Sustainable development and ecosystem services*. IWMI Books, Reports H046798, International Water Management Institute. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/629475-McCartney-Sustainable%20development%20and%20ecosystem%20services.pdf>
- Migliorelli, M. (2021). 'What do we mean by sustainable finance? Assessing existing frameworks and policy risks', *Sustainability*, 13(2), p. 975. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13020975>
- Reid, W., Mooney, H., Cropper, A., Capistrano, D., Carpenter, S., and Chopra, K. (2005) *Ecosystems and human well-being: General synthesis*. Washington, DC: Island Press.
- SDSN and the Institute for European Environmental Policy (2021) Country Profiles: Track progress and trends on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals for all European countries. Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Europe Sustainable Development Report 2021. <https://eu-dashboards.sdgindex.org/profiles>
- Yilan, G., Cordella, M. and Morone, P. (2022) 'Evaluating and managing the sustainability of investments in green and sustainable chemistry: An overview of sustainable finance approaches and tools', *Current Opinion in Green and Sustainable Chemistry*, 36, p. 100635. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cogsc.2022.100635>

## Fostering youth network cooperation in Europe and abroad for sustainable development

### Brighton Kaoma

Global Director, SDSN Youth



Sustainable development as a concept inherently supports interregional cooperation and collaboration. It proposes a 'conscious and responsible life' within the social, ecological and environmental dimensions of existence, and their connection with management systems, whether natural, economic and institutional, cultural or moral (Dacko, Mickiewicz and Plonka, 2021).

Cooperation for sustainable development also requires intergenerational engagement between today's leaders and the leaders of the next generation. Today's youth are facing complex challenges: the climate crisis, threats to international peace, poor healthcare and education infrastructure, and difficulties in accessing decent work (United Nations, 2022). These challenges are universal, but they continue to disproportionately impact young people. The 2022 High-Level Political Forum has highlighted 'the critical role of young people as agents for sustainable development, climate action and peace' and as 'torchbearers for the 2030 Agenda' (High-Level Political Forum, 2022). But although the Forum acknowledged *Youth2030* and committed to including young people 'in the development, monitoring and implementation of intergenerational strategies and programmes', UN Secretary-General, António Guterres also noted that too few countries give young people 'a voice in decisions that affect them'.

### Ellen R. Dixon

Project Lead for the SDG Students Program at SDSN Youth



Many argue that these initiatives involve age-based tokenism or marginalisation. One result has been the rise in 'youth-led protest movements [...] frequently driven by a deep distrust of today's political classes and a desire for proper engagement in decision-making' (Guterres, 2021). Young people are turning their dissatisfaction over economic and political reforms into opportunities for innovation, global collaboration and active citizenship.

European youth have been at the forefront of the global call for regional and interregional cooperation in sustainable development. They have been a driving force behind key social movements, from the Madrid *Indignados* to anti-racism protests, calls for climate justice, and social unrest in response to the cost-of-living crisis. This conscience for social change has resulted in various youth networking initiatives, including the European Commission's *Youth4Cooperation* and the European Union's *Youth Action Plan 2022–2027*, which have contributed to macro-regional sustainable development strategies in governance in areas around the Baltic Sea and the Danube. Such initiatives have extended beyond Europe, with the likes of the AU-EU Youth Cooperation Hub demonstrating how interregional, multi-stakeholder platforms in the youth sector contribute to building peaceful societies.

This form of youth network cooperation is manifested in young people piloting projects for sustainable development, forming professional connections and engaging in key decision-making. Young people are being empowered by exercising their global citizenship.

A focus on youth empowerment and youth citizenship for sustainable development is also at the heart of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network – Youth (SDSN Youth). Launched in 2015 by Professor Jeffrey Sachs as the youth wing of the SDSN, which itself was launched under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon in 2012, SDSN Youth now boasts 4,100 volunteers from 127 countries, supporting youth-led initiatives to further the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda.

The SDSN Youth, *2021 Mediterranean Youth Solutions Report* exemplifies these efforts. Developed in response to the 2021 SDSN report on sustainable development in the Mediterranean, in which the region scored an average SDG index of 75.1 (against Northern Europe's 79.8), the *Youth Solutions Report* proposed 23 solutions from youth organisations in Mediterranean countries and 6 from organisations across the world. These solutions focussed on education and training, nature conservation, sustainable businesses, youth action and health. Examples included Euro-Mediterranean training courses in environment development and youth-led efforts to fight plastic waste on the beaches of Morocco. In the words of the Chair of SDSN Mediterranean and Co-Chair of SDSN Europe, Angelo Riccaboni, such initiatives serve to reinforce 'the establishment of collaborative partnerships in the same geographic area' through cross-border relationship-building and exchange of best practices (Bibbiani et al., 2022).

SDSN's networks of young people across Europe have evidenced a wealth of localised, youth-led sustainable development initiatives. The Nordic Chapter of SDSN Youth, for example, collaborates

with the Nordic States to run the Solutions Initiative Sustainability Coach programme, with the support of Schneider Electric and East-West Greece. The programme addresses micro-climate conditions and mobility to help provide solutions for urban developers.

The SDSN Youth Global Team also demonstrates the value of youth networks supporting sustainable development. The Global Schools Program includes over 1,300 schools in more than 89 countries, training 22,800 educators and 102,600 students in sustainable development. The SDG Students Program is another initiative that engages students in over 75 hubs globally to support the SDGs at their local universities. Asterios Filis, SDG Coordinator from the Harokopio University of Athens, recognizes that his focus on sustainability has been greatly encouraged by student cooperation at the SDG Students Program:

*My interaction with the team members, and also with the members of other nodes, is one of the most beautiful experiences I have had so far, because I came in closer contact with people who share common concerns and goals, so this inspired me to support new actions and efforts!*

Young people across Europe and abroad are acting as agents for social change. Where Europe has reported challenges to achieving the SDGs in relation to sustainable diets, agriculture, climate, biodiversity, and regional living standards, young people are seeking solutions (Lafortune, et al., 2021). They are also proving 'how important it is to share joint efforts towards the realisation of inclusive, green, and prosperous societies [through] collaborative partnerships' (Bibbiani et al., 2022). With the 2023 High-Level Political Forum signalling the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda, it is essential that youth networking initiatives are supported.

Grim statements from Guterres arguing that 'humanity has a choice: cooperate or perish' affirm that truly significant change will be needed

---

to achieve sustainable development, in Europe and throughout the world. One of these changes, as SDSN Youth shows, is not novel. It is as simple as cooperating with young people – in Europe or abroad – and encouraging them to stand up for their rights, so as to 'create the conditions allowing them to progress and play an active role' in achieving 'peace, security, justice, climate resilience and sustainable development for all' (United Nations, 2018).

## References

- Bibbiani, I., Cresti, S., Razzaboni, M. and Toraldo, S. (2022). *Mediterranean Youth Solutions Report 2021*. Siena, Italy: Sustainable Development Solutions Network – Youth Mediterranean.
- Dacko, M., Mickiewicz, P., & Plonka, A. (2021). The role of education in shaping attitudes of academic youth towards sustainable development. *European Research Studies Journal*, 24(1), pp. 187-197.
- Guterres, A. (2021). *Our Common Agenda: The Report of the Secretary-General*. New York: United Nations.
- High-Level Political Forum (2022). Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2022 session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2022 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, on the theme 'Building back better from the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development'. E/HLS/2022/1.
- Lafortune, G., Cortese Puch, M., Monier, A., Fuller, G., Diaz, M., Riccaboni, A., Kioko-Lesch, A., Zachariadis, T., Carli, E. and Oger, A. (2021). *Europe Sustainable Development Report 2021: Transforming the European Union to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals*. Paris: SDSN, SDSN Europe and IEEP.
- United Nations (2018). *Youth2030*. New York: United Nations.
- United Nations (2022). *Transforming Education Summit Youth Declaration*. New York: United Nations.



# **Annex 1**

## **Methodology**

# Annex 1. Methodology

## Background

The *Europe Sustainable Development Report 2022* provides a quantitative assessment of SDG priorities for the EU, EFTA countries, the UK and candidate countries. Due to their recent accession to candidate-country status and lack of data in European databases, Moldova and Ukraine are not covered in this year's report. Future editions of this report may include these two countries. The 2022 SDG Index and Dashboards for Europe includes 110 indicators, including 98 that permit an evaluation of progress over time. The same indicator set is used for all countries to generate comparable scores and rankings. Data are also presented as population-weighted averages for the European Union and subregions, including the Baltic States, Central and Eastern Europe, Northern Europe, Southern Europe and Western Europe, in addition to EFTA countries and candidate countries.

The SDG Index and Dashboards for Europe builds on the methodology of the Sustainable Development Report developed by SDSN and Bertelsmann Stiftung to track countries' performance on the 17 SDGs. The report was first published in 2016 and is updated annually. The methodology has been peer-reviewed by Cambridge University Press (Sachs et al., 2022b) and Nature Geoscience (Schmidt-Traub et al., 2017) and statistically audited by the European Commission Joint Research Centre (Papadimitriou, Fragoso Neves and Becker, 2019). It is not an official report of the United Nations. Regional and subnational editions and databases, including for European cities, are accessible on our website: [www.sdgindex.org](http://www.sdgindex.org).

This European edition builds on the findings of the 2018 SDSN-EESC study which called for independent monitoring of SDG performance in Europe (Lafortune, and Schmidt-Traub, 2018). The report is co-designed by civil society and aims to complement the European Commission's reporting on the SDGs. Since 2016, the European Commission, via Eurostat, has released a SDG dataset and published the annual report *Sustainable Development in the European Union* (Eurostat, 2022), which is the lead SDG monitoring report in the EU. The SDG Index and Dashboards for Europe complements the official SDG reporting conducted by the European Commission, via Eurostat, in five principal ways:

1. It measures distance to pre-defined performance thresholds.

2. It monitors both *current* performance (latest year available) and *trends* over time
3. It presents results on each of the 17 SDGs for all 27 EU member states, as well as for EFTA countries, the UK and candidate countries.
4. It uses more non-official data from peer-reviewed papers and civil society.
5. It covers extensively the issues of international spillovers and 'leave no one behind' principles (including via dedicated indices).

Differences in the methodologies used and results obtained by the SDSN and the publishers of other SDG monitoring reports in Europe (including Eurostat, OECD and ASviS) have been documented in the literature (Lafortune et al., 2020).

The selection of indicators and performance thresholds benefited from inputs submitted in various rounds of stakeholder consultations. A kick-off workshop was organized with all partners on 1 July 2022, followed in October with an online public consultation of preliminary data and results. A virtual workshop was hosted by the EESC on October 22 to discuss the preliminary findings. Numerous informal consultations were also conducted with various services of the European Commission and members of the EESC and SDSN networks and other strategic partners. The list of contributors is presented in the acknowledgement section.

## Data gaps and limitations

Another purpose of this report is to identify data gaps in tracking the SDGs. Compared to other regions, Europe is a data-rich environment. This is due in large extent to the work of the European Statistical System, the collaboration across National Statistical Offices, and the leadership of the European Commission, via Eurostat. The EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), which has provided longitudinal multidimensional microdata on income, poverty, social exclusion and living conditions since 2003, is an example of a powerful instrument anchored in the European Statistical System. EU-SILC is extremely useful for tracking the 'leave no one behind' principle of Agenda 2030, as it provides disaggregated data on key metrics by gender, income, location (rural vs. urban), age etc.

Despite the strengths of the EU and partner countries in data and statistics compared with other regions, there are gaps that need to be

filled to track the SDGs at the national level in a comprehensive and timely way. In particular, more geospatial data and real-time estimates are needed. Better estimates of biodiversity losses generated by Europe within the continent and around the world are also needed. Some comparative social datasets (for instance on issues such as homelessness or crimes against women) and timely data on students' knowledge of sustainable development would also be beneficial. Table A1 summarizes these main data gaps. These are based on extensive consultations with the European Commission and non-governmental organisations.

As documented by the SDSN in the [2019 SDG Index and Dashboards for European Cities](#) (Lafortune et al., 2019) there are also important SDG data gaps at the subnational level in the EU, including at Nuts 2 and Nuts 3<sup>1</sup> (Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics) and at the municipal level.

**Table A1 | Main data gaps in tracking the SDGs in the EU**

SDG	Desired metric	SDG	Desired metric
SDG1	Robust international comparisons of homelessness	SDG11	Geospatial indicators of access to transports Transboundary air pollution flows
SDG2	Resource use efficiency (nutrients, water) Food loss and food waste Sustainability of diets and nutrient balance	SDG12	Environmental impact of material flows Chemicals
SDG3	More timely and better coverage for data on catastrophic health expenditure Government preparedness for pandemics and other critical risks	SDG13	New registrations of free emissions vehicle Decarbonisation of new marginal gigawatts
SDG4	Quality of instruction Timely estimates of student student knowledge Quality of tertiary education	SDG14	Maximum sustainable yields for fisheries Impact of high-sea and cross-border fishing
SDG5	More timely data on violence against women (including domestic violence and feminicides)	SDG15	Publicly available annual terrestrial population counts (e.g. for birds and butterflies) and data for other species
SDG6	Transboundary water pollution flows (e.g. in rivers)	SDG16	Unmet needs for legal services and advice
SDG10	GINI coefficients adjusted for missing top income Inequalities faced by people with disabilities		

Source: Authors



## Methods summary

SDSN and Bertelsmann Stiftung developed the SDG Index and Dashboards to track country performance and identify policy priorities for the SDGs. The global report has been updated annually since 2016. This is an unofficial process that complements on-going efforts in UN committees to track government commitments to the SDGs and harmonize data.

The SDG Index Score can be interpreted as expressing a country's achievement on the SDGs as a percentage. The difference between a country's overall score and 100 is therefore the distance in percentage points that needs to be achieved to attain optimal performance on the SDG targets as a whole. Scores by goal similarly express each country's percentage achievement towards optimal performance on each goal.

## Data Sources

Approximately 70% of the indicators come from official statistics (primarily services of the European Commission) and 30% from non-official data sources (NGOs, academia). Owing to the quantity and quality of data available in the European Statistical System (ESS) this assessment includes additional measures to track sustainable agriculture, gaps in access to and quality of key services across population groups and the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems. The difference in focus and data sources may lead to some differences compared to the results presented in the global SDG Index and Dashboards.

## Selection of Indicators

Five major criteria were used to inform the final indicator set for the *Europe Sustainable Development Report*:

1. The total number of indicators was limited to 100 (plus or minus 15%)
2. Simple, single-variable indicators were preferred, with straightforward policy implications
3. Indicators must allow for high-frequency monitoring
4. Indicators must be statistically valid and robust
5. Indicators must allow measurement of distance to targets (What is best performance and what is worst performance?)

## Method for defining performance thresholds (decision tree)

Performance thresholds (or the 'upper bound') for each indicator were determined using the following decision tree:

1. **Use absolute quantitative thresholds in SDGs and targets:** e.g. zero poverty, universal school completion, universal access to water and sanitation, full gender equality. Some SDG targets propose relative changes (Target 3.4: [...] reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases [...]) that cannot be translated into a global baseline today. Such targets are addressed in step 5 below.
2. **Where no explicit SDG target is available, apply the principle of 'leave no one behind'** to set the upper bound to universal access or zero deprivation. This includes, for instance, zero performance gap across population groups in self-reported health or unmet care needs.
3. **Where science-based targets exist that must be achieved by 2030 or later, use these to set the 100% upper bound** (e.g. reaching net-zero greenhouse gas emissions from energy by 2050 to stay within 1.5°C of pre-industrial levels, 100% sustainable management of fisheries, 80% yield gap closure).
4. **For all other indicators, use average top performers.** Either based on performance

1. The NUTS classification (Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics) is a hierarchical system for dividing up the economic territory of the EU. The classification helps inform socio-economic analyses of the regions: NUTS 2: basic regions for the application of regional policies; NUTS 3: small regions for specific diagnoses.

thresholds identified in the global edition of the SDG Index and Dashboards or, when not possible, the average of the top two performers included in this European edition.

This approach is similar to that used by the OECD for their report on [Measuring Distance to the SDG Targets](#) (OECD, 2019d). These principles interpret the SDGs as ‘stretch targets’ and focus attention on those indicators on which a country is lagging behind. The lower bound (0%) was defined at the lowest 2.5<sup>th</sup> percentile either from the global Sustainable Development Report, or when not possible, from the European countries included in the Europe-specific datasets. Global values were sometimes adjusted to make them more relevant to the European context. Each indicator distribution was censored, so that all values exceeding the upper bound scored 100, and values below the lower bound scored 0.

### Normalization

To make the data comparable across indicators, each variable was rescaled from 0 to 100 with 0 denoting worst performance and 100 describing the optimum. After establishing the upper and lower bounds, variables were transformed linearly to a scale between 0 and 100 using the following rescaling formula for the range [0; 100]

$$x' = \frac{x - \min(x)}{\max(x) - \min(x)} \times 100$$

where  $x$  is raw data value;  $\max/\min$  denote the bounds for best and worst performance, respectively; and  $x'$  is the normalized value after rescaling. The rescaling equation ensured that higher values indicated better performance. In this way, the rescaled data became easy to interpret and compare across all indicators: a country that scores 50 on a variable is half-way towards achieving the optimum value; a country with a score of 75 has covered three quarters of the distance from worst to best.

### Weighting and aggregation

To compute the SDG Index, we first estimate scores for each goal using the arithmetic mean of indicators for that goal. These goal scores are then averaged across all 17 SDGs to obtain the SDG Index score. As a normative assumption, we opted for fixed, equal weight to every SDG to reflect policymakers’ commitment to treat all SDGs equally and as an ‘integrated and indivisible’ set of goals (United Nations, 2015, para.5). At the indicator level equal weighting was retained because all other alternatives (mathematical weights, expert weights or user-driven weights) were considered as being less satisfactory (Lafortune et al., 2018). This implies that to improve their SDG Index score, countries need to place attention on all goals with a particular focus on goals where they are furthest from achieving the SDGs and where incremental progress might therefore be expected to be fastest.

Averaging across all indicators for an SDG might hide areas of policy concern if a country performs well on most indicators but faces serious short-falls on one or two metrics within the same SDG (often called the ‘substitutability’ or ‘compensation’ issue). As a result, the SDG Dashboards is based only on the two variables on which a country performed worst – except for Goal 3, where the three worst indicators are used due to the large number of indicators for that goal. The dashboards use a ‘traffic light’ colour scheme (green, yellow, orange and red) to illustrate how far a country is from achieving a particular goal. We applied the added rule that a red rating was applied only if both the worst-performing indicators score red. Similarly, in order to score green, all indicators under the goal must be green. At the indicator and goal level, the green value corresponds to SDG achievement. Where there are targets agreed at the EU level (for instance 9% NEET Rate by 2030 or 60% of municipal waste recycled by 2030) a country that performs at the target level or better will obtain a green score. Similarly, a country that is on track to achieve the EU agreed target by 2030 will obtain the best possible arrow. However, the perfect score on a scale of 100 (optimum value) might be

set higher to capture differences even among top performers. Our methodology rewards countries that exceed EU targets.

## Trends

Using historic data, we estimate how fast a country has been progressing towards an SDG and determine whether – if continued into the future – this pace will be sufficient to achieve the SDG by 2030. The difference in percentage points between the green threshold and the normalized country score denotes the gap that must be closed to meet that goal. To estimate SDG trends, we calculated the linear annual growth rates needed to achieve the goal by 2030 (2015–2030) which we compared to the average annual growth rate over the most recent period starting from the year of the adoption of the SDGs (e.g. 2015–2021). A system of four arrows was developed. A green arrow going up denotes ‘on track or maintaining performance above goal achievement’, the intermediate yellow

and orange arrows denote insufficient progress, and a red arrow indicates movement away from the target. In this year’s edition, we added the rule that countries that have already achieved an SDG target, but whose performance has worsened over period since 2015 will no longer receive a green arrow. Instead, we now assign these countries an orange arrow ‘stagnation,’ to denote the fact that they remain within the SDG achievement bounds but also draw attention to the fact that, if the current trend continues, the country might leave the SDG achievement bound.

## Europe subregions

The EU aggregate includes the 27 EU member states and is a population-weighted average. To calculate aggregate values for the European subregions, countries are grouped as shown in Table A2 (the United Kingdom is not included in the subregional averages, nor is Bosnia and Herzegovina, given its status as a potential candidate country). Each of these aggregates is population weighted.

**Table A2 | Groupings of European countries by subregion**

<u>Baltic States</u>	<u>Central and Eastern Europe</u>	<u>Candidate Countries</u>	<u>EFTA Countries</u>	<u>Northern Europe</u>	<u>Southern Europe</u>	<u>Western Europe</u>
Estonia	Bulgaria	Albania	Iceland	Denmark	Cyprus	Austria
Latvia	Czechia	Montenegro	Liechtenstein	Finland	Greece	Belgium
Lithuania	Croatia	North Macedonia	Norway	Sweden	Italy	France
	Hungary	Serbia	Switzerland		Malta	Germany
	Poland	Türkiye			Portugal	Ireland
	Romania				Spain	Luxembourg
	Slovak Republic					Netherlands
	Slovenia					

Source: Adapted from Eurowc

## More information

Additional information and sensitivity tests can be found in the following documents:

[Sustainable Development Report 2022](#)

[European Commission JRC Statistical Audit](#)

[Detailed Methodology paper](#)

Interactive online dashboards, downloadable databases and other supplementary material for the 2022 edition of the Europe SDR can be found at: <http://sustainabledevelopment.report>

**Table A3 | Spillover indicators and categories**

The 2022 International Spillover Index for European countries tracks impacts generated by Europe on the rest of the world. SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth), SDG 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals), among others, emphasize the need to address negative socio-economic impacts and environmental impacts embodied into unsustainable supply chains and calls on rich countries to play a leadership role and support poorer countries. Tax havens and profit shifting can inhibit other countries' ability to raise the public revenues needed to finance the SDGs. The International Spillover Index comprises 14 indicators organized in three categories of international spillovers. The International Spillover Index score is calculated as an arithmetic average of countries' scores on all the indicators, weighted equally. The score was not generated for candidate countries.

#### **SPILLOVER CATEGORIES    SPILLOVER INDICATORS**

##### **Environmental and social impacts embodied into trade**

- Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)
- Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m<sup>3</sup>/capita)
- Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)
- Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)
- Imported SO<sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)
- Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)
- Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO<sub>2</sub>/capita)
- Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)
- Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)

##### **Economy and finance**

- Official development assistance (% of GNI)
- Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)
- Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)

##### **Security**

- Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)

Source: Authors

**Table A4 | The 'leave no one behind' Index: indicators and categories**

The Leave No One Behind (LNOB) Index aims to measure countries' efforts to address material deprivation and inequalities across population groups. LNOB is a key principle of the SDGs and 2030 Agenda. This year's LNOB index includes a subset of 32 indicators used in the SDG Index, grouped into four categories: extreme poverty and material deprivation; income inequality; access to and quality of services for all; gender inequalities. Principal Component Analysis performed at the category level reveals that all categories load into one single factor, which suggests that each categories measure a component of a common underlying statistical phenomenon which we call 'Leave No One Behind'. Each LNOB category is calculated as the arithmetic average of each indicator. The LNOB Index is calculated as an arithmetic average of scores obtained in each category.

LNOB CATEGORIES	LNOB INDICATORS
<b>Extreme poverty and material deprivation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)</li> <li>• Severely materially deprived people (%)</li> <li>• Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)</li> <li>• People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)</li> <li>• Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)</li> <li>• Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)</li> <li>• In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)</li> <li>• Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)</li> <li>• Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)</li> <li>• Housing cost overburden rate (%)</li> </ul>
<b>Income inequality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)</li> <li>• Gini Coefficient</li> <li>• Palma ratio</li> </ul>
<b>Access to and quality of services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)</li> <li>• Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)</li> <li>• Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)</li> <li>• Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)</li> <li>• Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)</li> <li>• Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)</li> <li>• Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)</li> <li>• Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)</li> <li>• Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)</li> <li>• Individuals aged 55 to 74 years old who have basic or above basic digital skills (%)</li> <li>• Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)</li> <li>• Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)</li> <li>• Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)</li> </ul>
<b>Gender inequality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)</li> <li>• Gender employment gap (p.p.)</li> <li>• Population inactive due to caring re-sponsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)</li> <li>• Seats held by wom-en in national par-liaments (%)</li> <li>• Positions held by women in senior management posi-tions (%)</li> <li>• Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)</li> </ul>

Table A5 | Indicators included in the Europe Sustainable Development Report 2022

SDG	Indicator	Reference Year	Source	Description
1	People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	2021	Eurostat (EU-SILC)	People at risk-of-poverty are persons with an equivalised disposable income below the risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60 % of the national median equivalised disposable income (after social transfers).
1	Severely materially deprived people (%)	2020	Eurostat (EU-SILC)	The share of severely materially deprived persons who have living conditions severely constrained by a lack of resources. They experience at least 4 out of 9 following deprivations items: cannot afford i) to pay rent or utility bills, ii) keep home adequately warm, iii) face unexpected expenses, iv) eat meat, fish or a protein equivalent every second day, v) a week holiday away from home, vi) a car, vii) a washing machine, viii) a colour TV, or ix) a telephone.
1	Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	2022	World Poverty Clock	Estimated percentage of each country's population that is living under the poverty threshold of US\$5.50 a day in purchasing power parity (PPP) at constant 2011 prices.
2	Prevalence of obesity, BMI $\geq 30$ (% of adult population)	2019	Eurostat (EHIS)	The percentage of the adult population that has a body mass index (BMI) of 30kg/m <sup>2</sup> or higher, based on self-reported height and weight.
2	Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2019	Bonhommeau et al (2013)	The Human Trophic Level (HTL) is a mean of the trophic level of food items in the diet, weighted by quantity. Trophic levels are a measure of the energy intensity of diet composition and reflect the relative amounts of plants as opposed to animals eaten in a given country. A higher trophic level represents a greater level of consumption of energy-intensive animals.
2	Yield gap closure (%)	2018	Global Yield Gap Atlas	A country's yield expressed as a percentage of its potential yield in the three annual crops using the most land area, weighted for the relative importance of each crop in terms of surface area.
2	Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	2019	Eurostat	The potential surplus or deficit of nitrogen in agricultural soils. A lack of nitrogen or phosphorus may lead to degradation in soil fertility, while an excess may cause surface and groundwater (including drinking water) pollution and eutrophication. Ideally, the input/output of nutrition to the soil should be balanced. The land types included in utilised agricultural area (UAA) are arable land, permanent crops and permanent grassland.
2	Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	2019	EEA	The amount of ammonia (NH <sub>3</sub> ) emissions as a result of the agricultural production. Ammonia emissions per hectare are calculated using the total utilised agricultural area (UAA) of the relevant year as denominator.
2	Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	2019	Public Eye & UNEP (2020)	The amount of pesticide mixture, containing a pesticide ingredient banned in the EU, per 1,000 population. Data are reported in either liters or kilograms, a conversion factor of (1 kg = 1 L) was assumed to aggregate data. Data come from export notifications at the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), paperwork that companies must complete under European law to export banned pesticides beyond the European Union.
3	Life expectancy at birth (years)	2021	Eurostat	Life expectancy at birth is defined as the mean number of years that a newborn child can expect to live if subjected throughout his life to the current mortality conditions (age-specific probabilities of dying).
3	Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	2020	Eurostat	Differences in life expectancy among regions. Calculated by taking the largest gap in life expectancy among NUTS2 regions within each country.
3	Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	2021	Eurostat (EU-SILC)	The indicator is a subjective measure on how people judge their health in general on a scale from "very good" to "very bad". It is expressed as the share of the population aged 16 or over perceiving itself to be in "good" or "very good" health.
3	Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	2021	Eurostat (EU-SILC)	Gap in percentage of people who perceive their health status as good or very good between the poorest 20% and the richest 20% of the population.
3	Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	2021	Eurostat (EU-SILC)	Gap in percentage of people reporting unmet needs for medical care between the poorest 20% and the richest 20% of the population. A positive value means that people with low income report more unmet needs than people with high income. Reasons for unmet need include that medical care was too expensive, too far to travel or required a waiting list.

Table A5 | Indicators included in the Europe Sustainable Development Report 2022 (cont.)

SDG	Indicator	Reference Year	Source	Description
3	New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	2020	WHO	New cases of tuberculosis infection per 100,000 population.
3	Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	2019	Eurostat	Avoidable mortality covers both preventable and treatable causes of mortality. Preventable mortality refers to mortality that can mainly be avoided through effective public health and primary prevention interventions (i.e. before the onset of diseases/injuries, to reduce incidence). Treatable mortality can mainly be avoided through timely and effective health care interventions, including secondary prevention and treatment (after the onset of diseases to reduce case-fatality). The data are presented as standardised death rates, meaning they are adjusted to a standard age distribution in order to measure death rates independently of different age structures of populations.
3	Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	2019	Eurostat	Rate of mortality due to self-harm per 100,000 population.
3	Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	2019	WHO	Mortality rate that is attributable to the joint effects of fuels used for cooking indoors and ambient outdoor air pollution.
3	Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2020	UNICEF et al	The probability that a newborn baby will die before reaching age five, if subject to age-specific mortality rates of the specified year, per 1,000 live births.
3	People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	2020	DG MOVE	The number of fatalities caused by road accidents, including drivers and passengers of motorised vehicles and pedal cycles as well as pedestrians. Persons dying on road accidents up to 30 days after the occurrence of the accident are counted as road accident fatalities. After these 30 days, a different cause of death might be declared by reporting institutions. For member states not using this definition, corrective factors are applied.
3	Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	2021	WHO/UNICEF	Estimated national routine immunisation coverage of infants, expressed as the percentage of surviving infants children under the age of 12 months who received two WHO-recommended vaccines (3rd dose of DTP and 1st dose of measles).
3	Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	2019	Eurostat (EHIS)	Proportion of population that engages in heavy episodic drinking, which is defined as ingesting more than 60g of pure ethanol on a single occasion.
3	Smoking prevalence (%)	2020	DG SANTE	The share of the population aged 15 years and over who report that they currently smoke boxed cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos or a pipe. The data does not include use of other tobacco products such as electronic cigarettes and snuff. The data are collected through a Eurobarometer survey and are based on self-reports during face-to-face interviews in people's homes.
3	People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	2021	OECD	Percentage of people covered by health insurance for a core set of services under public programs and through private insurance.
3	Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	2021	OECD	Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments. Out-of-pocket payments are expenditures borne directly by a patient where neither public nor private insurance cover the full cost of the health good or service. They include cost-sharing and other expenditures paid directly by private households and should also in principle include estimations of informal payments to health care providers.
3	Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	2021	Gallup	Subjective self-evaluation of life, where respondents are asked to evaluate where they feel they stand on a ladder where 0 represents the worst possible life and 10 the best possible life.
3	Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	2020	Eurostat	The proportion of the population that reported using the internet to make appointments with a practitioner.
4	Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	2020	Eurostat	The share of the children between the age of three and the starting age of compulsory primary education who participated in early childhood education.



Table A5 | Indicators included in the Europe Sustainable Development Report 2022 (cont.)

SDG	Indicator	Reference Year	Source	Description
4	Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	2021	Eurostat (EU-LFS)	Share of the population aged 18 to 24 with at most lower secondary education who were not involved in any education or training during the four weeks preceding the survey. Lower secondary education refers to ISCED (International Standard Classification of Education) 2011 level 0-2 for data from 2014 onwards and to ISCED 1997 level 0-3C short for data up to 2013. Data stem from the EU Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS).
4	PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	2018	OECD	National scores in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), an internationally standardised assessment that is administered to 15-year-olds in schools. PISA scores for reading, mathematics and science were averaged to obtain an overall PISA score.
4	Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	2018	OECD	Share of 15-year-old students failing to reach level 2 ("basic skills level") on the PISA scale for science. The data stem from the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), an internationally standardised assessment that is administered to 15-year-olds in schools.
4	Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	2018	OECD	Percentage of variation in science performance on the PISA explained by students' socio-economic status. The data stem from the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), an internationally standardised assessment that is administered to 15-year-olds in schools.
4	Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	2021	Eurostat (EU-LFS)	Share of the population aged 25-34 who have successfully completed tertiary studies (e.g. university, higher technical institution, etc.). This educational attainment refers to ISCED (International Standard Classification of Education) 2011 level 5-8 for data from 2014 onwards and to ISCED 1997 level 5-6 for data up to 2013. The indicator is based on the EU Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS).
4	Adult participation in learning (%)	2021	Eurostat (EU-LFS)	Share of people aged 25 to 64 who stated that they received formal or non-formal education and training in the four weeks preceding the survey (numerator). The denominator consists of the total population of the same age group, excluding those who did not answer to the question 'participation in education and training'. Adult learning covers formal and non-formal learning activities — both general and vocational — undertaken by adults after leaving initial education and training. Data stem from the EU Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS).
5	Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	2020	Eurostat (SES)	The difference between average gross hourly earnings of male paid employees and of female paid employees as a percentage of average gross hourly earnings of male paid employees. The indicator has been defined as unadjusted, because it gives an overall picture of gender inequalities in terms of pay and measures a concept which is broader than the concept of equal pay for equal work. All employees working in firms with ten or more employees, without restrictions for age and hours worked, are included.
5	Gender employment gap (p.p.)	2021	Eurostat (EU-LFS)	Difference between the employment rates of men and women aged 20 to 64. The employment rate is calculated by dividing the number of persons aged 20 to 64 in employment by the total population of the same age group.
5	Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	2021	Eurostat (EU-LFS)	The indicator measures the share of individuals that are not actively seeking work, so they are neither employed nor unemployed and considered to be outside the labour force, because of caring responsibilities. While several reasons may exist why somebody is not seeking employment, only the main one is considered. "Inactivity due to caring responsibilities" refers to the reasons 'looking after children or incapacitated adults' and 'other family or personal responsibilities'.
5	Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	2021	European Institute for Gender Equality	The proportion of women in national parliaments. The national parliament is the national legislative assembly and the indicator refers to both chambers (lower house and an upper house, where relevant). The count of members of a parliament includes the president/speaker/leader of the parliament.
5	Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	2021	European Institute for Gender Equality	The share of female board members in the largest publicly listed companies. Only companies which are registered in the country concerned are counted. Board members cover all members of the highest decision-making body in each company (i.e. chairperson, non-executive directors, senior executives and employee representatives, where present).
5	Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	2021	Eurostat (EU-LFS)	The share of ICT employment that was accounted for by women.



Table A5 | Indicators included in the Europe Sustainable Development Report 2022 (cont.)

SDG	Indicator	Reference Year	Source	Description
6	Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	2020	Eurostat (EU-SILC)	The share of total population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor an indoor flushing toilet in their household.
6	Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	2020	Eurostat	The percentage of population connected to wastewater treatment systems with at least secondary treatment. Thereby, wastewater from urban sources or elsewhere is treated by a process generally involving biological treatment with a secondary settlement or other process, resulting in a removal of organic material that reduces the biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) by at least 70 % and the chemical oxygen demand (COD) by at least 75 %.
6	Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	2017	Eurostat	Annual total fresh water abstraction in a country as a percentage of its long-term annual average available water (LTAA) from renewable fresh water resources (groundwater and surface water). Total fresh water abstraction includes water removed from any fresh water source, either permanently or temporarily. Mine water and drainage water as well as water abstractions from precipitation are included, whereas water used for hydroelectricity generation (in situ use) is excluded.
6	Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	2018	UNEP	Scarce water use is measured as water consumption weighted by scarcity indices. In order to incorporate water scarcity into the virtual water flow calculus, water use entries are weighted so that they reflect the scarcity of the water being used. The weight used is a measure of water withdrawals as a percentage of the existing local renewable freshwater resources.
6	Population using safely managed water services (%)	2020	WHO/UNICEF JMP	Percentage of the population using a safely managed drinking water service. A safely managed drinking water service is one where people use an "improved" source meeting three criteria: it is accessible on premises, water is available when needed, and the water supplied is free from contamination. Improved sources are those that have the potential to deliver safe water by nature of their design and construction.
6	Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	2020	WHO/UNICEF JMP	Percentage of the population using safely managed sanitation services. Safely managed sanitation services are "improved" sanitation facilities that are not shared with other households, and where the excreta produced should either be treated and disposed of in situ, stored temporarily and then emptied, transported and treated off-site, or transported through a sewer with wastewater and then treated off-site. Improved sanitation facilities are those designed to hygienically separate excreta from human contact.
7	Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	2021	Eurostat (EU-SILC)	Share of population who are in the state of enforced inability to keep home adequately warm.
7	Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	2020	Eurostat	The indicator measures the share of renewable energy consumption in gross final energy consumption according to the Renewable Energy Directive. The gross final energy consumption is the energy used by end-consumers (final energy consumption) plus grid losses and self-consumption of power plants.
7	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	2019	IEA	"A measure of the carbon intensity of energy production, calculated by dividing CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from the combustion of fuel by electricity output. This indicator was calculated by dividing national data on Total CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion for electricity and heat (MtCO <sub>2</sub> ) over Electricity output (TWh)."
8	Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	2020	World Justice Project	Measures the effective enforcement of fundamental labour rights, including freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining, the absence of discrimination with respect to employment, and freedom from forced labour and child labour.
8	Gross disposable income (€/capita)	2021	Eurostat	The indicator reflects the purchasing power of households and their ability to invest in goods and services or save for the future, by accounting for taxes and social contributions and monetary in-kind social benefits. It is calculated as the adjusted gross disposable income of households and Non-Profit Institutions Serving Households (NPISH) divided by the purchasing power parities (PPP) of the actual individual consumption of households and by the total resident population.
8	Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	2021	Eurostat (EU-LFS)	The share of the population aged 15 to 29 who is not employed and not involved in education or training.

Table A5 | Indicators included in the Europe Sustainable Development Report 2022 (cont.)

SDG	Indicator	Reference Year	Source	Description
8	Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	2020	Eurostat (EU-LFS)	The percentage of the active population (labour force) that is unemployed. The labour force is the total number of people employed and unemployed.
8	People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	2019	Eurostat	Number of fatal accidents that occur during the course of work and lead to the death of the victim within one year of the accident. The incidence rate refers to the number of fatal accidents per 100 000 persons in employment.
8	In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	2021	Eurostat (EU-SILC)	The share of persons who are employed and have an equivalised disposable income below the risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60 % of the national median equivalised disposable income (after social transfers). For the purpose of this indicator, an individual is considered as being employed if he/she was employed for more than half of the reference year.
8	Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	2018	ILO & Lenzen et al (2022)	Victims of forced labour embodied in supply chains. Calculated using a multi-regional input-output table (Gloria) extended with a slavery satellite account
8	Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	2018	Malik et al (2022)	Number of fatal work-related accidents associated with imported goods. Calculated using extensions to a multiregional input-output table.
9	Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	2020	Eurostat	The indicator measures gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD) as a percentage of the gross domestic product (GDP).
9	R&D personnel (% of active population)	2020	Eurostat	Share of R&D personnel broken down by the following institutional sectors: business enterprise (BES), government (GOV), higher education (HES), private non-profit (PNP). Data are presented in full-time equivalents as a share of the economically active population (the 'labour force').
9	Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	2021	European Patents Office	Requests for protection of an invention directed either directly to the European Patent Office (EPO) or filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty and designating the EPO (Euro-PCT), regardless of whether they are granted or not. The patent applications are allotted according to the country of residence of the applicant listed on the application form. In cases where several applicants are mentioned on the application form, the country of residence of the first applicant listed applies. The country of residence of the (first) applicant is not necessarily the same as the country of residence of the inventor(s).
9	Households with broadband access (%)	2021	Eurostat	Percentage of households with broadband internet service. Data given in this domain are collected annually by the National Statistical Institutes and are based on Eurostat's annual model questionnaires on ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) usage in households and by individuals.
9	Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	2021	Eurostat	Difference in the percentage of households with internet access between those in urban areas as opposed to rural areas.
9	Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	2021	Eurostat	Percentage of people aged 16-74 years old who have basic or above basic digital skills. Data given in this domain are collected annually by the National Statistical Institutes and are based on Eurostat's annual model questionnaires on ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) usage in households and by individuals.
9	Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1-5 best)	2018	World Bank	Survey-based assessment of the quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure, e.g. ports, roads, railroads and information technology, on a scale from 1 (worst) to 5 (best).
9	The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0-100 best)	2022	Times Higher Education	The average score of the top three universities in each country that are listed in the global top 1,000 universities in the world, expressed as 0-100. For countries with at least one university on the list, only the score of the ranked university was taken into account. Whenever a university score was missing in the Times Higher Education World University Ranking, an indicator from the Global Innovation Index on the top 3 universities in Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) University Ranking, was used as a source when available.
9	Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	2021	Scimago Journal Rank	Number of citable documents published by a journal. A document counts as citable. Exclusively articles, reviews and conference papers are considered.
10	Gini Coefficient	2021	Eurostat (EU-SILC)	The Gini coefficient is defined as the relationship of cumulative shares of the population arranged according to the level of equivalised disposable income, to the cumulative share of the equivalised total disposable income received by them.

Table A5 | Indicators included in the Europe Sustainable Development Report 2022 (cont.)

SDG	Indicator	Reference Year	Source	Description
10	Palma ratio	2019	OECD	Share of all income received by the 10% of people with highest disposable income divided by the share of all income received by the 40% of people with the lowest disposable income. World Bank data was used for countries missing data in the OECD database.
11	Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	2018	DG Regio (2018)	The average share of urban green spaces and forests as a percentage of land area.
11	Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	2021	Eurostat (EU-SILC)	Share of people living in overcrowded conditions in the EU. A person is considered to be living in an overcrowded household if the house does not have at least one room for the entire household as well as a room for a couple, for each single person above 18, for a pair of teenagers (12 to 17 years of age) of the same sex, for each teenager of different sex and for a pair of children (under 12 years of age).
11	Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	2020	Eurostat	Tonnage recycled from municipal waste divided by the total municipal waste arising. Recycling includes material recycling, composting and anaerobic digestion. Municipal waste consists mostly of waste generated by households, but may also include similar wastes generated by small businesses and public institutions and collected by the municipality.
11	Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	2020	Eurostat (EU-SILC)	Share of the population experiencing at least one of the following basic deficits in their housing condition: a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation, or rot in window frames or floor.
11	Housing cost overburden rate (%)	2021	Eurostat (EU-SILC)	the share of population living in households that spend 40 % or more of the household disposable income on housing ('net' of housing allowances). Housing costs include rental or mortgage interest payments but also the cost of utilities such as water, electricity, gas or heating.
11	Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	2019	EEA	Air pollution measured as the population weighted annual mean concentration of particulate matter at urban background stations in agglomerations.
12	Circular material use rate (%)	2020	Eurostat	The circular material use (CMU) rate measures the share of material recovered and fed back into the economy in overall material use. The CMU rate is defined as the ratio of the circular use of materials to the overall material use.
12	Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2020	Eurostat	The environmental goods and services sector (EGSS) is defined as that part of a country's economy that is engaged in producing goods and services that are used in environmental protection and resource management activities either domestically or abroad. Gross value added in EGSS represents the contribution of the environmental goods and services sector to GDP. Products for environmental protection prevent, reduce and eliminate pollution or any other degradation of the environment and include measures undertaken to restore degraded habitats and ecosystems. Examples are electric vehicles, catalysts and filters to decrease pollutant emissions, wastewater and waste treatment services, or noise insulation works. Products for resource management safeguard the stock of natural resources against depletion. Examples are renewable energy production, energy efficient and passive buildings, seawater desalination or rainwater recovery.
12	Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	2018	Lenzen et al. (2022)	SO <sub>2</sub> emissions associated with the production of goods and services, which are then either exported or consumed domestically.
12	Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	2018	Lenzen et al. (2022)	Emissions of SO <sub>2</sub> embodied in imported goods and services.
12	Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	2015	Lenzen et al. (2020)	Reactive nitrogen emitted during the production of commodities, which are then either exported or consumed domestically. Reactive nitrogen corresponds to emissions of ammonia, nitrogen oxides and nitrous oxide to the atmosphere, and of reactive nitrogen potentially exportable to water bodies.
12	Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	2015	Lenzen et al. (2020)	Imports of reactive nitrogen emitted during the production of commodities. Reactive nitrogen corresponds here to emissions of ammonia, nitrogen oxides and nitrous oxide to the atmosphere, and of reactive nitrogen potentially exportable to water bodies.

Table A5 | Indicators included in the Europe Sustainable Development Report 2022 (cont.)

SDG	Indicator	Reference Year	Source	Description
12	Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	2021	UN Comtrade	The average annual amount of plastic waste exported over the last 5 years expressed per capita.
13	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	2020	Global Carbon Project	The estimates of global and national fossil CO <sub>2</sub> emissions (EFOS) include the combustion of fossil fuels through a wide range of activities (e.g. transport, heating and cooling, industry, fossil industry own use, and natural gas flaring), the production of cement, and other process emissions (e.g. the production of chemicals and fertilizers) as well as CO <sub>2</sub> uptake during the cement carbonation process.
13	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	2018	Lenzen et al. (2022)	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imported goods and services.
13	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	2021	UN Comtrade	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in the exports of coal, gas, and oil. Calculated using a 5-year average of fossil fuel exports and converting exports into their equivalent CO <sub>2</sub> emissions. Exports for each fossil fuel are capped at the country's level of production.
14	Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	2021	EEA	Assesses quality of surface waters that can be used for bathing except for swimming pools and spa pools, confined waters subject to treatment or used for therapeutic purposes and confined waters artificially separated from surface water and groundwater. Bathing water quality was evaluated upon two microbiological parameters: Intestinal enterococci and Escherichia coli.
14	Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	2018	Sea Around Us	The percentage of a country's total catch, within its exclusive economic zone (EEZ), that is comprised of species that are overexploited or collapsed, weighted by the quality of fish catch data.
14	Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	2018	Sea Around Us	The percentage of fish caught either by bottom trawling or dredging. Bottom trawling is a fishing method in which industrial fishing vessels drag large nets (trawls) along the seabed. Dredging is a method of fishing in which a dredge or metal toothed bar is dragged along the ocean floor, digging into the seabed to collect molluscs into a steel net.
14	Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	2018	Sea Around Us	The percentage of fish that are caught only to be later discarded.
14	Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	2018	Lenzen et al. (2012)	Threats to marine species embodied in imports of goods and services.
14	Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	2021	BirdLife International, IUCN, UNEP-WCMC	The mean percentage area of marine Key Biodiversity Areas (sites that are important for the global persistence of marine biodiversity) that is covered by protected areas.
15	Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	2021	BirdLife International, IUCN, UNEP-WCMC	The mean percentage area of terrestrial Key Biodiversity Areas (sites that are important for the global persistence of biodiversity) that is covered by protected areas.
15	Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	2021	BirdLife International, IUCN, UNEP-WCMC	The mean percentage area of freshwater Key Biodiversity Areas (sites that are important for the global persistence of biodiversity) that is covered by protected areas.
15	Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	2019	EEA	Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) is used to measure water quality. It refers to the amount of oxygen required by aerobic microorganisms to decompose organic substances in a water sample over a period of five days in the dark at 20°C (BOD <sub>5</sub> ), measured as milligrams per litre (mg O <sub>2</sub> /L) and weighted by the number of measuring stations. High values of BOD <sub>5</sub> are usually a sign of organic pollution, which affects the water quality.
15	Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	2019	EEA	Indicator refers to concentrations of nitrate (NO <sub>3</sub> ) in groundwater, measured as milligrams per litre (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /L). Data are taken from well samples and aggregated to annual average values. Nitrate can persist in groundwater for a long time and accumulate at a high level through inputs from anthropogenic sources (mainly agriculture). The EU drinking water standard is limited to 50 mg NO <sub>3</sub> /L to avoid threats to human health.

Table A5 | Indicators included in the Europe Sustainable Development Report 2022 (cont.)

SDG	Indicator	Reference Year	Source	Description
15	Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	2022	IUCN and Birdlife International	Change in aggregate extinction risk across groups of species. The index is based on genuine changes in the number of species in each category of extinction risk on The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.
15	Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	2018	Lenzen et al. (2012)	Threats to terrestrial and freshwater species embodied in imports of goods and services.
16	Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	2019	Eurostat	Standardised death rate of homicide and injuries inflicted by another person with the intent to injure or kill by any means, including 'late effects' from assault (International Classification of Diseases (ICD) codes X85 to Y09 and Y87.1).
16	Population reporting crime in their area (%)	2020	Eurostat (EU-SILC)	Share of the population who reported that they face the problem of crime, violence or vandalism in their local area. This describes the situation where the respondent feels crime, violence or vandalism in the area to be a problem for the household, although this perception is not necessarily based on personal experience.
16	Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	2020	Eurostat (EU-SILC)	Gap in percentage of people reporting crime, violence or vandalism in their area between those below 60% of median equivalised income and those above 60% of median equivalised income.
16	Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	2020	World Justice Project	Composite measure of the affordability and accessibility of the civil justice system.
16	Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	2020	World Justice Project	Composite measure of the effectiveness and timeliness of the enforcement of civil justice decisions and judgments in practice.
16	Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	2020	World Justice Project	Composite measure of the extent to which those who govern are bound by law. It comprises the means, both constitutional and institutional, by which the powers of the government and its officials and agents are limited and held accountable under the law.
16	Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	2021	Transparency International	Perceived levels of public sector corruption, on a scale from 0 (highest level of perceived corruption) to 100 (lowest level of perceived corruption). The CPI aggregates data from a number of different sources that provide perceptions of business people and country experts.
16	Unsented detainees (% of prison population)	2019	UNODC	Unsented prisoners, as a percentage of overall prison population. Persons held unsented or pre-trial refers to persons held in prisons, penal institutions or correctional institutions who are untried, pre-trial or awaiting a first instance decision on their case from a competent authority regarding their conviction or acquittal.
16	Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	2021	Stockholm International Peace Research Institute	Volume of major conventional weapons exported, expressed in constant 1990 US\$ millions per 100 000 people. The value reported is the average over the last 5-year period. It is calculated based on the trend-indicator value (TIV), which is based on the known unit production cost of a core set of weapons, and does not reflect the financial value of the exports. Small arms, light weapons, ammunition and other support material are not included.
16	Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	2022	Reporters sans frontières	Degree of freedom available to journalists in 180 countries and regions, determined by pooling the responses of experts to a questionnaire devised by Reporters sans frontières.
17	Official development assistance (% of GNI)	2021	OECD (DAC)	Official development assistance (ODA) is defined as government aid designed to promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries. Aid may be provided bilaterally, from donor to recipient, or channelled through a multilateral development agency such as the United Nations or the World Bank. From 2018, the ODA grant-equivalent methodology is used whereby only the "grant portion" of the loan, i.e. the amount "given" by lending below market rates, counts as ODA.
17	Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	2018	Zucman (2022)	Estimation of how much profit is shifted into tax havens and how much non-haven countries lose in profits from such shifting. Based on macroeconomic data known as foreign affiliates statistics. Negative values indicate profit shifting.
17	Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	2021	Tax Justice Network (2021)	The Corporate Tax Haven Score measures a jurisdiction's potential to poach the tax base of others, as enshrined in its laws, regulations and documented administrative practices.
17	Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	2019	World Bank	The Statistical Performance Index is a weighted average of the statistical performance indicators that evaluate the performance of national statistical systems. It aggregates five pillars of statistical performance: data use, data services, data products, data sources, and data infrastructure.

Table A6 | Indicators used for SDG Trends and period for trend estimation

SDG	Indicator	Period Covered
1	People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	2015–2021
1	Severely materially deprived people (%)	2015–2020
1	Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	2015–2022
2	Prevalence of obesity, BMI $\geq$ 30 (% of adult population)	2014–2019
2	Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2015–2019
2	Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	2015–2019
2	Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	2015–2019
3	Life expectancy at birth (years)	2015–2021
3	Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	2015–2020
3	Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	2015–2021
3	Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	2015–2021
3	Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	2015–2021
3	New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	2015–2020
3	Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	2015–2019
3	Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	2015–2019
3	Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2015–2020
3	People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	2015–2020
3	Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	2015–2021
3	Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	2014–2019
3	Smoking prevalence (%)	2014–2020
3	People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	2015–2021
3	Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	2015–2021
3	Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	2015–2021
3	Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	2016–2020
4	Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	2015–2020
4	Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	2015–2021
4	PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	2015–2018
4	Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	2015–2018
4	Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	2015–2018
4	Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	2015–2021
4	Adult participation in learning (%)	2015–2021
5	Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	2015–2020
5	Gender employment gap (p.p.)	2015–2021
5	Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	2015–2021
5	Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	2015–2021

Table A6 | Indicators used for SDG Trends and period for trend estimation (cont.)

SDG	Indicator	Period Covered
5	Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	2015–2021
5	Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	2015–2021
6	Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their house-hold (%)	2015–2020
6	Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	2015–2020
6	Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	2014–2017
6	Population using safely managed water services (%)	2015–2020
6	Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	2015–2020
6	Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	2015–2021
7	Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	2015–2020
7	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	2015–2019
7	Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	2015–2020
8	Gross disposable income (€/capita)	2015–2021
8	Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	2015–2021
8	Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	2015–2020
8	People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	2015–2019
8	In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	2015–2021
8	Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	2015–2018
8	Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	2015–2020
9	R&D personnel (% of active population)	2015–2020
9	Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	2015–2021
9	Households with broadband access (%)	2015–2021
9	Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	2015–2021
9	Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	2015–2021
9	Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	2014–2018
9	The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	2017–2022
9	Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	2015–2021
10	Gini Coefficient	2015–2021
10	Palma ratio	2015–2019
11	Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	2012–2018
11	Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	2015–2021
11	Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	2015–2020
11	Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	2015–2020
11	Housing cost overburden rate (%)	2015–2021
12	Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	2015–2019



Table A6 | Indicators used for SDG Trends and period for trend estimation (cont.)

SDG	Indicator	Period Covered
12	Circular material use rate (%)	2015–2020
12	Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2015–2020
12	Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	2012–2015
12	Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	2012–2015
12	Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	2016–2021
13	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	2015–2020
13	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	2015–2018
14	Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	2015–2021
14	Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	2015–2018
14	Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	2015–2018
14	Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	2015–2018
14	Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	2015–2021
15	Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	2015–2021
15	Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	2015–2021
15	Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	2015–2019
15	Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	2015–2019
15	Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	2015–2022
16	Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	2015–2019
16	Population reporting crime in their area (%)	2015–2020
16	Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	2015–2020
16	Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	2015–2020
16	Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	2015–2020
16	Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	2015–2020
16	Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	2015–2021
16	Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	2015–2019
16	Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	2015–2022
17	Official development assistance (% of GNI)	2018–2021
17	Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	2015–2018
17	Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	2015–2019

Source: Authors



Table A7 | Indicator thresholds and justifications for the optimum values

SDG	Indicator	Optimum (value = 100)	Green	Yellow	Orange	Red	Lower bound (value = 0)	Justification for optimum
1	People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	0	≤15	15 < x ≤ 18.5	18.5 < x ≤ 22	>22	25.6	SDG Target
1	Severely materially deprived people (%)	0	≤5	5 < x ≤ 12.5	12.5 < x ≤ 20	>20	31.4	SDG Target
1	Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0	≤1	1 < x ≤ 3	3 < x ≤ 5	>5	21	SDG Target
2	Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	3	≤10	10 < x ≤ 15	15 < x ≤ 20	>20	35.1	Average of top performers (Global)
2	Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.04	≤2.2	2.2 < x ≤ 2.3	2.3 < x ≤ 2.4	>2.4	2.47	Average of top performers (Global)
2	Yield gap closure (%)	80	≥75	75 > x ≥ 62.5	62.5 > x ≥ 50	<50	28	Science-based/technical optimum
2	Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	10	≤50	50 < x ≤ 75	75 < x ≤ 100	>100	200	Average of top performers (Europe)
2	Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	8	≤20	20 < x ≤ 32.5	32.5 < x ≤ 45	>45	60	Average of top performers (Europe) without outliers
2	Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0	≤0	0 < x ≤ 25	25 < x ≤ 50	>50	550	Science-based/technical optimum
3	Life expectancy at birth (years)	83	≥80	80 > x ≥ 75	75 > x ≥ 70	<70	54	Average of top performers (Global)
3	Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	0	≤4	4 < x ≤ 5.5	5.5 < x ≤ 7	>7	11	Leave no one behind
3	Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	80	≥65	65 > x ≥ 52.5	52.5 > x ≥ 40	<40	25	Average of top performers (Europe)
3	Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	0	≤20	20 < x ≤ 35	35 < x ≤ 50	>50	60	Leave no one behind
3	Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	0	≤3	3 < x ≤ 9	9 < x ≤ 15	>15	20	Leave no one behind
3	New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	3.6	≤10	10 < x ≤ 42.5	42.5 < x ≤ 75	>75	561	Average of top performers (Global)
3	Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	150	≤300	300 < x ≤ 450	450 < x ≤ 600	>600	1000	Average of top performers (Europe)
3	Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	4	≤12	12 < x ≤ 17	17 < x ≤ 22	>22	30	Average of top performers (Europe)
3	Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	0	≤18	18 < x ≤ 50	50 < x ≤ 82	>82	369	SDG Target
3	Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2.6	≤25	25 < x ≤ 37.5	37.5 < x ≤ 50	>50	130	Average of top performers (Global)
3	People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	3	≤8	8 < x ≤ 12.5	12.5 < x ≤ 17	>17	34	Average of top performers (Global)
3	Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	100	≥90	90 > x ≥ 85	85 > x ≥ 80	<80	41	Leave no one behind
3	Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	0.4	≤4	4 < x ≤ 8	8 < x ≤ 12	>12	20	Average of top performers (Europe)
3	Smoking prevalence (%)	12	≤25	25 < x ≤ 35	35 < x ≤ 45	>45	50	Average of top performers (Europe)
3	People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100	≥98	98 > x ≥ 86.5	86.5 > x ≥ 75	<75	50	Leave no one behind
3	Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	10	≤25	25 < x ≤ 37.5	37.5 < x ≤ 50	>50	66	Average of top performers (Europe)
3	Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	7.6	≥6	6 > x ≥ 5.5	5.5 > x ≥ 5	<5	3.3	Average of top performers (Global)
3	Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	50	≥30	30 > x ≥ 20	20 > x ≥ 10	<10	0	Average of top performers (Europe)
4	Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	100	≥85	85 > x ≥ 77.5	77.5 > x ≥ 70	<70	35	SDG Target
4	Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	4	≤10	10 < x ≤ 12.5	12.5 < x ≤ 15	>15	31	Average of top performers (Europe)
4	PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	525.6	≥493	493 > x ≥ 446.5	446.5 > x ≥ 400	<400	350	Average of top performers (OECD)
4	Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	12	≤20	20 < x ≤ 26.5	26.5 < x ≤ 33	>33	53	Average of top performers (Europe)
4	Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	8.3	≤10.5	10.5 < x ≤ 15.25	15.25 < x ≤ 20	>20	21.4	Average of top performers (OECD)
4	Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	52	≥40	40 > x ≥ 30	30 > x ≥ 20	<20	0	Average of top performers (Global)
4	Adult participation in learning (%)	28	≥11	11 > x ≥ 6.5	6.5 > x ≥ 2	<2	0	Average of top performers (Europe)
5	Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	0	≤14	14 < x ≤ 22	22 < x ≤ 30	>30	40	Leave no one behind
5	Gender employment gap (p.p.)	0	≤10	10 < x ≤ 17.5	17.5 < x ≤ 25	>25	41	Leave no one behind

Table A7 | Indicator thresholds and justifications for the optimum values (cont.)

SDG	Indicator	Optimum (value = 100)	Green	Yellow	Orange	Red	Lower bound (value = 0)	Justification for optimum
5	Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	6	≤20	20 < x ≤ 35	35 < x ≤ 50	>50	66	Average of top performers (Europe)
5	Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	50	≥40	40 > x ≥ 30	30 > x ≥ 20	<20	12	Leave no one behind
5	Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	50	≥40	40 > x ≥ 25	25 > x ≥ 10	<10	0	Leave no one behind
5	Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	50	≥30	30 > x ≥ 20	20 > x ≥ 10	<10	0	Leave no one behind
6	Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0	≤1	1 < x ≤ 5.5	5.5 < x ≤ 10	>10	30	Leave no one behind
6	Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	100	≥80	80 > x ≥ 55	55 > x ≥ 30	<30	20	Leave no one behind
6	Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	1	≤15	15 < x ≤ 27.5	27.5 < x ≤ 40	>40	80	Average of top performers (Europe)
6	Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m³/capita)	100	≤1000	1000 < x ≤ 2500	2500 < x ≤ 4000	>4000	11000	Average of top performers (Global)
6	Population using safely managed water services (%)	100	≥95	95 > x ≥ 87.5	87.5 > x ≥ 80	<80	10.5	Leave no one behind
6	Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	100	≥90	90 > x ≥ 77.5	77.5 > x ≥ 65	<65	14.1	Leave no one behind
7	Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	0	≤4	4 < x ≤ 9.5	9.5 < x ≤ 15	>15	35	Leave no one behind
7	Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	50	≥30	30 > x ≥ 20	20 > x ≥ 10	<10	3	Average of top performers (OECD)
7	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	0	≤1	1 < x ≤ 1.25	1.25 < x ≤ 1.5	>1.5	5.9	Science-based/technical optimum
8	Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.9	≥0.7	0.7 > x ≥ 0.6	0.6 > x ≥ 0.5	<0.5	0.15	Average of top performers (Europe)
8	Gross disposable income (€/capita)	30000	≥20000	20000 > x ≥ 15000	15000 > x ≥ 10000	<10000	5000	Mean
8	Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	8	≤12	12 < x ≤ 13.5	13.5 < x ≤ 15	>15	27	Average of top performers (OECD)
8	Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	3	≤5	5 < x ≤ 7.5	7.5 < x ≤ 10	>10	18	Average of top performers
8	People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	0	≤2.5	2.5 < x ≤ 3.5	3.5 < x ≤ 4.5	>4.5	5	Science-based/Technical optimum
8	In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	3.3	≤8	8 < x ≤ 11.5	11.5 < x ≤ 15	>15	18.6	Average of top performers (Europe)
8	Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0	≤0.1	0.1 < x ≤ 0.5	0.5 < x ≤ 0.9	>0.9	1	Science-based/Technical optimum
8	Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0	≤20	20 < x ≤ 140	140 < x ≤ 260	>260	280	Science-based/Technical optimum
9	Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	3.3	≥2	2 > x ≥ 1.5	1.5 > x ≥ 1	<1	0.4	Average of top performers (Europe)
9	R&D personnel (% of active population)	2	≥1	1 > x ≥ 0.75	0.75 > x ≥ 0.5	<0.5	0.3	Average of top performers (Europe)
9	Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	240	≥80	80 > x ≥ 45	45 > x ≥ 10	<10	3	Average of top performers (Europe) without outliers
9	Households with broadband access (%)	96	≥80	80 > x ≥ 75	75 > x ≥ 70	<70	60	Average of top performers (Europe)
9	Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	0	≤10	10 < x ≤ 15	15 < x ≤ 20	>20	26	Leave no one behind
9	Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	80	≥60	60 > x ≥ 50	50 > x ≥ 40	<40	20	Average of top performers (Europe)
9	Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	4.2	≥3	3 > x ≥ 2.5	2.5 > x ≥ 2	<2	1.8	Average of top performers (Global)
9	The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	50	≥30	30 > x ≥ 15	15 > x ≥ 0	<0	0	Average of top performers (Global)
9	Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	1.2	≥0.7	0.7 > x ≥ 0.375	0.375 > x ≥ 0.05	<0.05	0	Average of top performers (Global)
10	Gini Coefficient	27.5	≤30	30 < x ≤ 35	35 < x ≤ 40	>40	63	Average of top performers (Global)
10	Palma ratio	0.9	≤1	1 < x ≤ 1.15	1.15 < x ≤ 1.3	>1.3	2.5	Average of top performers (OECD)
11	Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	0	≤5	5 < x ≤ 12.5	12.5 < x ≤ 20	>20	40	Leave no one behind
11	Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	6	≤35	35 < x ≤ 42.5	42.5 < x ≤ 50	>50	65	Average of top performers (Europe)
11	Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	62	≥40	40 > x ≥ 30	30 > x ≥ 20	<20	0	Average of top performers (Europe)
11	Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	6	≤15	15 < x ≤ 20	20 < x ≤ 25	>25	30	Average of top performers (Europe)
11	Housing cost overburden rate (%)	2.5	≤5	5 < x ≤ 10	10 < x ≤ 15	>15	30	Average of top performers (Europe)

Table A7 | Indicator thresholds and justifications for the optimum values (cont.)

SDG	Indicator	Optimum (value = 100)	Green	Yellow	Orange	Red	Lower bound (value = 0)	Justification for optimum
11	Exposure to air pollution: PM2.5 in urban areas (µg/m³)	5	≤10	10 < x ≤ 15	15 < x ≤ 20	>20	26	Average of top performers (Europe)
12	Circular material use rate (%)	19	≥25	25 > x ≥ 15	15 > x ≥ 5	<5	1	Average of top performers (Europe) without outliers
12	Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	5.5	≥3.5	3.5 > x ≥ 2.25	2.25 > x ≥ 1	<1	1	Average of top performers (Europe)
12	Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	0	≤30	30 < x ≤ 65	65 < x ≤ 100	>100	525	Average of top performers (Global)
12	Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	0	≤5	5 < x ≤ 7.5	7.5 < x ≤ 10	>10	30	Science-based/Technical optimum
12	Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	2	≤10	10 < x ≤ 15	15 < x ≤ 20	>20	30	Average of top performers (Global)
12	Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	0	≤5	5 < x ≤ 10	10 < x ≤ 15	>15	30	Science-based/Technical optimum
12	Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	0	≤1	1 < x ≤ 3	3 < x ≤ 5	>5	12	Science-based/Technical optimum
13	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	0	≤2	2 < x ≤ 3	3 < x ≤ 4	>4	20	Science-based/Technical optimum
13	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	0	≤0.5	0.5 < x ≤ 0.75	0.75 < x ≤ 1	>1	3.2	Science-based/Technical optimum
13	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	0	≤100	100 < x ≤ 4050	4050 < x ≤ 8000	>8000	44000	Science-based/Technical optimum
14	Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	100	≥80	80 > x ≥ 65	65 > x ≥ 50	<50	25	Science-based/Technical optimum
14	Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	0	≤10	10 < x ≤ 15	15 < x ≤ 20	>20	90.7	Science-based/Technical optimum
14	Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	0	≤5	5 < x ≤ 15	15 < x ≤ 25	>25	90	Science-based/Technical optimum
14	Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	0	≤5	5 < x ≤ 10	10 < x ≤ 15	>15	20	Science-based/Technical optimum
14	Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0	≤0.2	0.2 < x ≤ 0.6	0.6 < x ≤ 1	>1	2	Science-based/Technical optimum
14	Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	100	≥90	90 > x ≥ 80	80 > x ≥ 70	<70	0	Science-based/Technical optimum
15	Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	100	≥90	90 > x ≥ 80	80 > x ≥ 70	<70	4.6	Science-based/Technical optimum
15	Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	100	≥90	90 > x ≥ 80	80 > x ≥ 70	<70	0	Science-based/Technical optimum
15	Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	1	≤2	2 < x ≤ 2.5	2.5 < x ≤ 3	>3	10	Science-based/Technical optimum
15	Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	10	≤25	25 < x ≤ 37.5	37.5 < x ≤ 50	>50	60	Science-based/Technical optimum
15	Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	1	≥0.99	0.99 > x ≥ 0.975	0.975 > x ≥ 0.96	<0.96	0.6	Science-based/Technical optimum
15	Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0	≤1	1 < x ≤ 2	2 < x ≤ 3	>3	10	Science-based/Technical optimum
16	Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.3	≤1.5	1.5 < x ≤ 2.75	2.75 < x ≤ 4	>4	23	Average of top performers (Global)
16	Population reporting crime in their area (%)	4	≤10	10 < x ≤ 15	15 < x ≤ 20	>20	24	Average of top performers (Europe)
16	Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0	≤2	2 < x ≤ 6	6 < x ≤ 10	>10	15	Leave no one behind
16	Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.8	≥0.65	0.65 > x ≥ 0.575	0.575 > x ≥ 0.5	<0.5	0.1	Average of top performers (Europe)
16	Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.85	≥0.7	0.7 > x ≥ 0.55	0.55 > x ≥ 0.4	<0.4	0.15	Average of top performers (Europe)
16	Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.93	≥0.7	0.7 > x ≥ 0.6	0.6 > x ≥ 0.5	<0.5	0.4	Average of top performers (Europe)
16	Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	88.6	≥60	60 > x ≥ 50	50 > x ≥ 40	<40	13	Average of top performers (Global)
16	Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	7	≤30	30 < x ≤ 40	40 < x ≤ 50	>50	75	Average of top performers (Global)
16	Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0	≤1	1 < x ≤ 1.75	1.75 < x ≤ 2.5	>2.5	3.4	Science-based/Technical optimum
16	Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	90	≥75	75 > x ≥ 62.5	62.5 > x ≥ 50	<50	20	Average of top performers (Global)
17	Official development assistance (% of GNI)	1	≥0.7	0.7 > x ≥ 0.55	0.55 > x ≥ 0.4	<0.4	0.1	Average of top performers (Global)
17	Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	0	≥0	0 > x ≥ -15	-15 > x ≥ -30	<-30	-70	Science-based/Technical optimum
17	Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	40	≤60	60 < x ≤ 65	65 < x ≤ 70	>70	100	Average of top performers (Europe)
17	Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	100	≥85	85 > x ≥ 67.5	67.5 > x ≥ 50	<50	25	Technical Optimum

## References

- Eurostat (2022). *Sustainable Development in the European Union: Monitoring Report on Progress towards the SDGs in an EU Context : 2022 Edition*. European Commission. Statistical Office of the European Union Publications Office, LU.
- Lafortune, G., G. Fuller, J. Moreno, G. Schmidt-Traub and C. Kroll (2018). 'SDG Index and Dashboards. Detailed Methodological paper'. Bertelsmann Stiftung and Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Paris.
- Lafortune, G., G. Fuller, G. Schmidt-Traub and C. Kroll (2020). 'How is progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals measured? Comparing four approaches for the EU'. *Sustainability*, 12(18), 7675.
- Lafortune, G., and G. Schmidt-Traub (2018). 'Exposing EU policy gaps to address the Sustainable Development Goals'. European Economic and Social Committee.
- Lafortune, G., K. Zoeteman, G. Fuller, R. Mulder, J. Dagevos and G. Schmidt-Traub (2019). *SDG Index and Dashboards Report for European Cities*, <https://www.sustainabledevelopment.report>.
- OECD (2019). *Measuring Distance to the SDG Targets 2019: An Assessment of Where OECD Countries Stand*. Paris: OECD.
- Papadimitriou, E., A. R. Neves, W. Becker, the European Commission and Joint Research Centre (2019). *JRC Statistical Audit of the Sustainable Development Goals Index and Dashboards*.
- Sachs, J., C. Kroll, G. Lafortune, G. Fuller and F. Woelm (2021). *Sustainable Development Report 2021*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK.
- Schmidt-Traub, G., C. Kroll, K. Teksoz, D. Durand-Delacre and J. D. Sachs (2017). 'National baselines for the Sustainable Development Goals assessed in the SDG Index and Dashboards', *Nature Geoscience*, 10(8), 547–555.





**Annex 2.**  
**Country profiles for**  
**the EU, its Member States**  
**and partner countries**

## ▼ Overall Performance

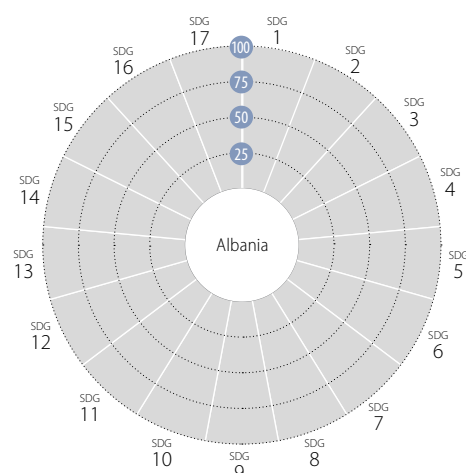
Index score



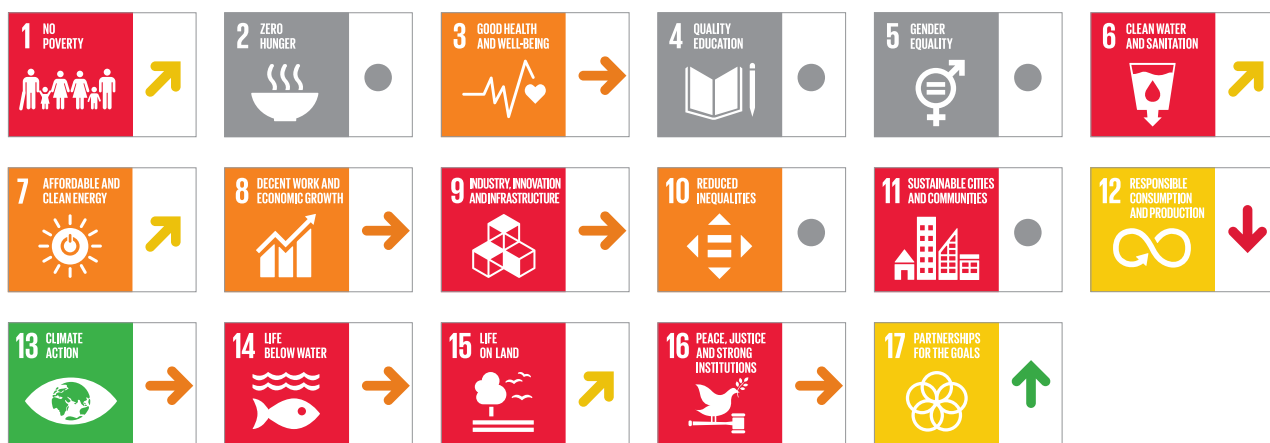
Index Rank

**Albania**  
**NA**

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↗ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

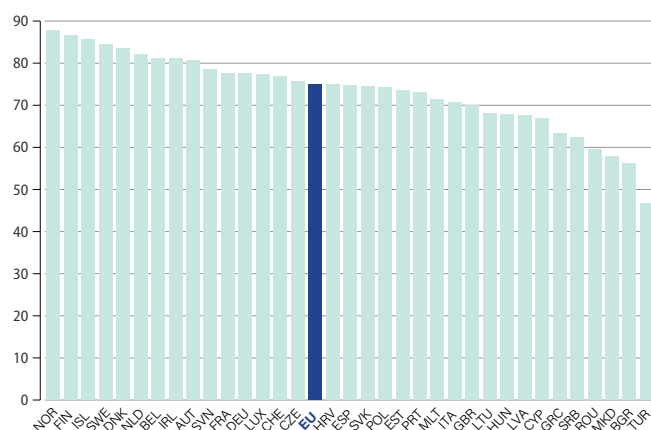
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

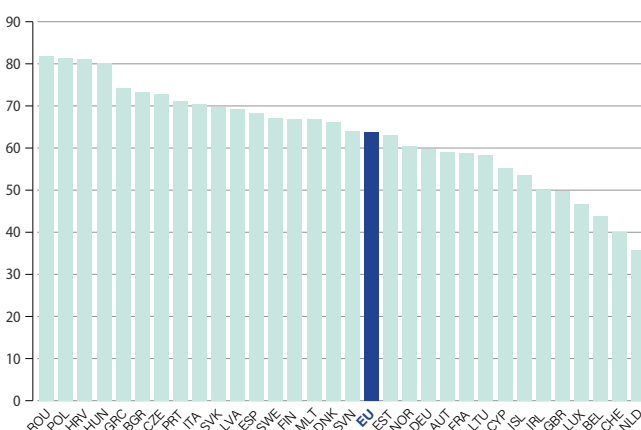
## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	21.8	2020	●	●
Severely materially deprived people (%)	34.7	2020	●	●
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	25.8	2022	●	↗

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	* 21.7	2016	●	●
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.37	2019	●	↗
Yield gap closure (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	77.4	2020	●	↓
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	2.7	2020	●	●
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	82.8	2020	●	●
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	6.0	2020	●	●
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	7.7	2020	●	●
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	15.0	2020	●	↗
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	NA	NA	●	●
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	92	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	9.8	2020	●	↗
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	87	2021	●	↓
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Smoking prevalence (%)	NA	NA	●	●
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	44.6	2018	●	●
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	5.3	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	NA	NA	●	●
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	NA	NA	●	●
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	419.8	2018	●	↗
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	47.0	2018	●	↓
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	6.1	2018	●	●
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	NA	NA	●	●
Adult participation in learning (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	6.8	2018	●	●
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	NA	NA	●	●
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	35.7	2021	●	●
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	2.9	2020	●	●
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	30.9	2020	●	↗
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	2.0	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	2528.0	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	70.7	2020	●	↗
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	47.7	2020	●	↗

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	35.8	2020	●	●
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	45.0	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	0.9	2019	●	↗

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.48	2020	●	↗
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	NA	NA	●	●
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	NA	NA	●	●
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	NA	NA	●	●
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	NA	NA	●	●
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	12.7	2020	●	●

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.1	2018	●	↗
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	26.9	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	NA	NA	●	●
R&D personnel (% of active population)	NA	NA	●	●
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	1.1	2021	●	↗
Households with broadband access (%)	91	2021	●	●
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	24	2021	●	●
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	2.3	2018	●	●
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	* 0.0	2022	●	●
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	0.3	2021	●	↗

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	33.2	2020	●	●
Palma ratio	1.27	2018	●	●

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	31.6	2018	●	●
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	66.1	2020	●	●
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	18.1	2020	●	●
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	22.0	2020	●	●
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	3.8	2020	●	●
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	NA	NA	●	●
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	3.9	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	1.4	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	14.4	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	1.9	2015	●	↗
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	0.9	2016	●	●

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	1.6	2020	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	0.5	2018	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	68.1	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	84.3	2018	●	↓
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	24.7	2018	●	↓
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.0	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	67.3	2021	●	↗

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	48.7	2021	●	↗
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	96.6	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	6.1	2019	●	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.84	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.6	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	4.3	2004	●	●
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	0.7	2020	●	●
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.0	2020	●	●
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.56	2020	●	↗
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.52	2020	●	↗
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.43	2020	●	↓
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	35	2021	●	↓
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	44.9	2019	●	↗
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.00	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	56.4	2022	●	↓

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	NA	NA	●	●
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	NA	NA	●	●
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	* 0	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	75.4	2019	●	↑

\* Imputed data point



## ▼ Overall Performance

Index score

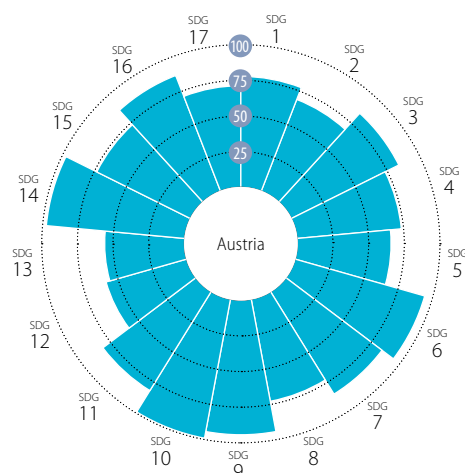


Index Rank

Austria

4

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
→ Stagnating   
↗ Moderately improving   
↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
● Information unavailable

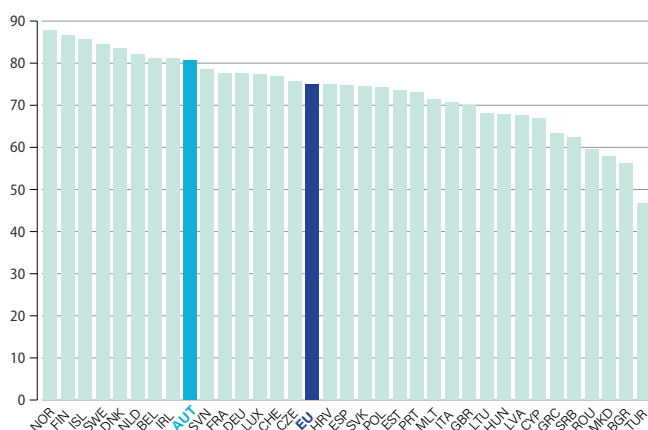
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

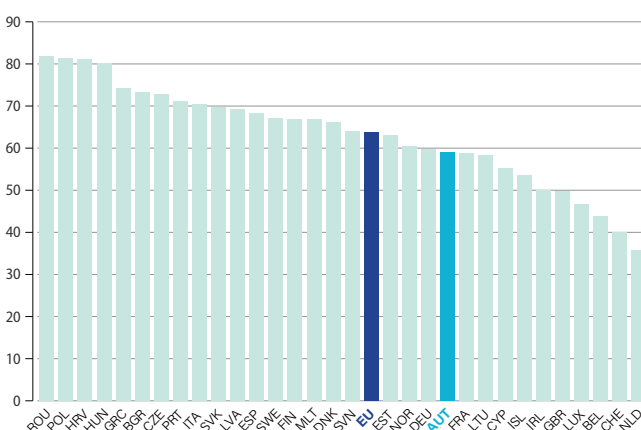
## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	14.7	2021	●	→
Severely materially deprived people (%)	2.7	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.6	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	17.1	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.41	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	69.7	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	34.1	2019	●	↑
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	22.0	2019	●	→
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	6.7	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	81.3	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	2.3	2020	●	→
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	72.3	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	19.9	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	0.2	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	4.9	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	225.1	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	12.3	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	18	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	3.6	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	3.9	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	85	2021	●	↓
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	2.3	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	25	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	99.9	2021	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	15.4	2021	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	7.1	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	9	2020	●	→

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	89.7	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	8.0	2021	●	→
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	491.0	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	21.9	2018	●	↓
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	14.8	2018	●	→
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	42.4	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	14.6	2021	●	↑

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	18.9	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	8.6	2021	●	→
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	21.7	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	41.6	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	34.6	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	19.0	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.5	2020	●	→
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	99.1	2020	●	→
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	1.8	2017	●	→
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	3598.2	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	98.9	2020	●	→
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	99.6	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	1.7	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	36.5	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	0.9	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.81	2020	●	→
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	26959	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	9.4	2021	●	→
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	5.4	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	2.5	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	7.5	2021	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.5	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	137.9	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	3.2	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.8	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	259.4	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	95	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	3	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	63	2021	●	→
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	4.2	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	54.9	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	3.4	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	26.7	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	0.95	2019	●	↑

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	1.2	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	36.5	2021	●	↓
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	61.8	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	9.1	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	6.1	2021	●	→
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	12.0	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	12.0	2020	●	→
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	4.2	2019	●	↑
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	11.1	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	9.3	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	12.3	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	16.9	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	19.7	2021	●	↓

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	6.7	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	4.1	2018	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	191.9	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	97.7	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.1	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	67.4	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	71.2	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	1.6	2019	●	→
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	21.8	2019	●	↑
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.90	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	4.5	2018	●	●

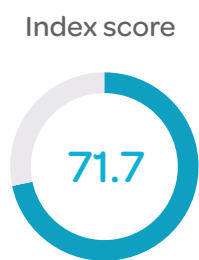
## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.5	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	5.7	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	1.6	2020	●	→
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.69	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.68	2020	●	→
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.85	2020	●	→
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	74	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	20.0	2019	●	→
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.13	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	76.7	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.31	2021	●	→
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	5.3	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	56	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	89.1	2019	●	→

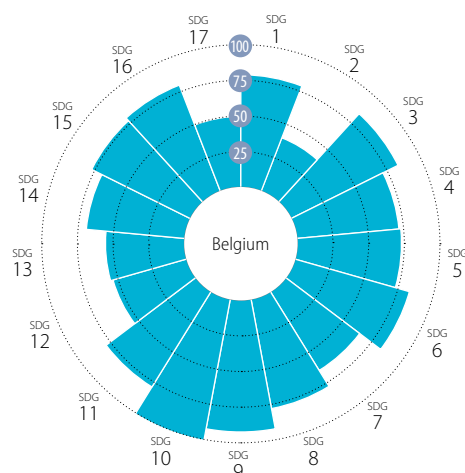
### Overall Performance



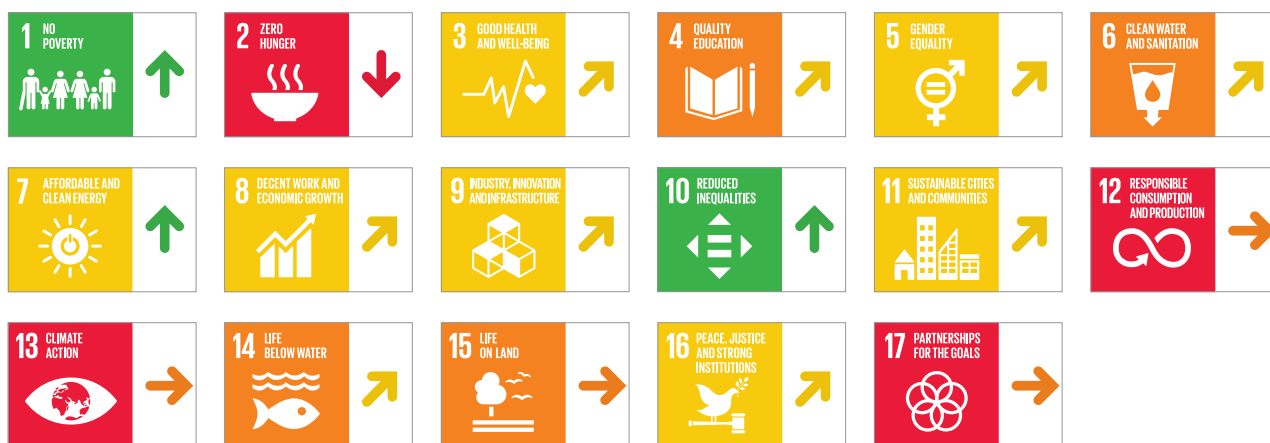
Index Rank

**Belgium**  
**15**

### Performance by SDG



### SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable

↓ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 ↗ Moderately improving
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

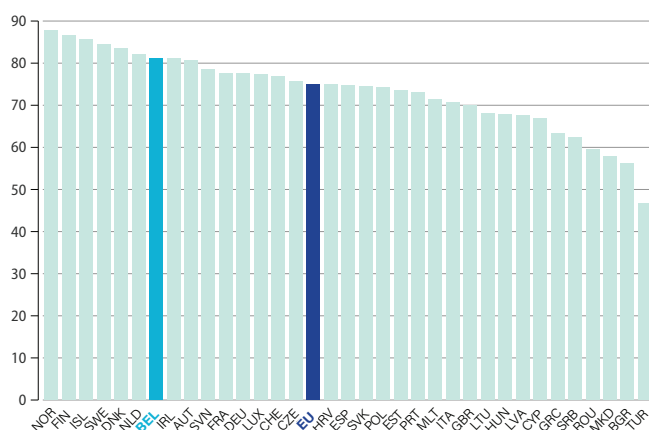
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

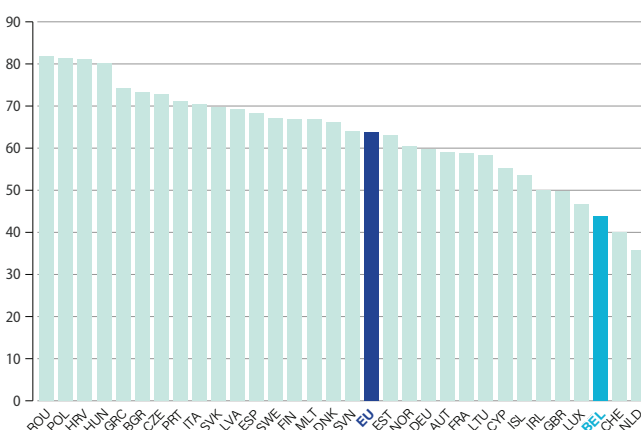
### Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



### Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	13.1	2021	●	↑
Severely materially deprived people (%)	3.9	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.3	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	16.3	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.44	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	77.2	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	132.0	2015	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	44.5	2019	●	→
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	487.2	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	81.9	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	4.6	2020	●	↓
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	76.4	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	28.3	2021	●	→
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	4.1	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	7.7	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	207.4	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	15.2	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	15	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	4.2	2020	●	→
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	4.3	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	96	2021	●	↑
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	7.6	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	21	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	98.6	2021	●	→
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	16.4	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.9	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	36	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	98.5	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	6.7	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	499.9	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	20.0	2018	●	→
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	20.0	2018	●	↓
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	50.9	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	10.2	2021	●	↑

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	5.3	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	7.7	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	24.9	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	43.8	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	37.9	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	19.6	2021	●	↑

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.1	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	83.6	2020	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	7.3	2017	●	→
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m³/capita)	6802.1	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	99.9	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	88.8	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	3.5	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	13.0	2020	●	↑
CO₂ emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO₂/TWh)	1.1	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.82	2020	●	↑
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	26401	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	10.1	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	5.6	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	1.3	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	3.9	2021	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.5	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	138.2	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	3.5	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	2.1	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	215.1	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	92	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	0	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	54	2021	●	↓
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	4.0	2018	●	→
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	64.7	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	3.3	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	23.9	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	0.90	2019	●	●

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	4.7	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	15.9	2021	●	→
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	52.0	2020	●	→
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	15.7	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	7.5	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM2.5 in urban areas (µg/m³)	11.1	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	23.0	2020	●	↑
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	1.1	2019	●	→
Production-based SO₂ emissions (kg/capita)	15.4	2018	●	●
Imported SO₂ emissions (kg/capita)	11.9	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	12.5	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	15.6	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	29.5	2021	●	↓

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO₂/capita)	7.2	2020	●	↑
CO₂ emissions embodied in imports (tCO₂/capita)	5.2	2018	●	↓
CO₂ emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	0.0	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	78.7	2021	●	→
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	13.0	2018	●	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	34.6	2018	●	↓
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.2	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	96.9	2021	●	↑

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	75.9	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	85.6	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O₂/litre)	2.3	2019	●	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO₃/litre)	28.3	2019	●	→
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.98	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	4.7	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.8	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	10.8	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	5.2	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.72	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.70	2020	●	↑
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.83	2020	●	→
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	73	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	35.6	2018	●	↓
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.29	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	78.9	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.46	2021	●	→
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	-45.7	2018	●	↓
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	73	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	82.4	2019	●	↑

# BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

## Potential Candidate Country

### Overall Performance

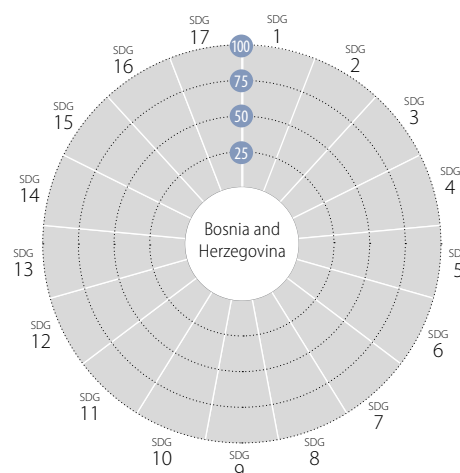
Index score



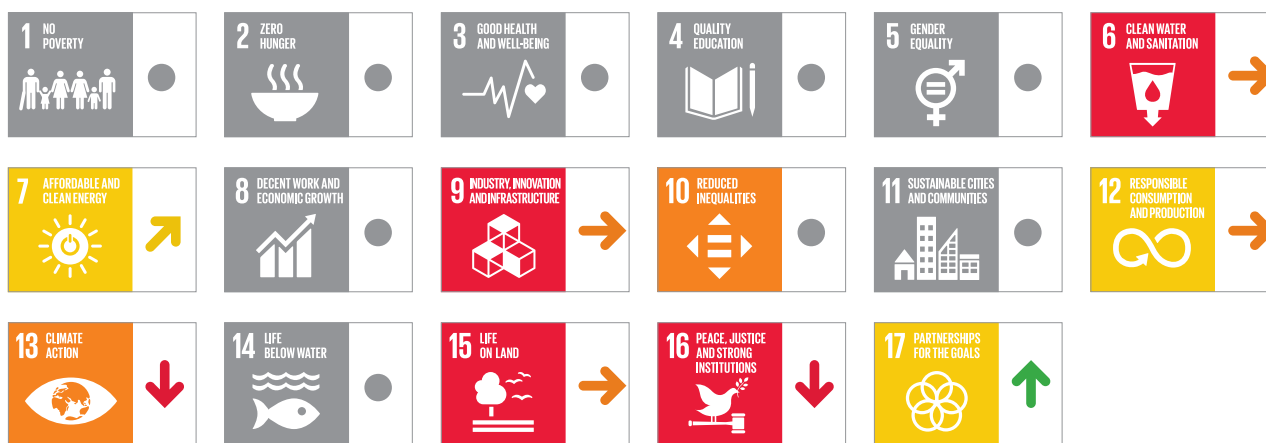
Index Rank

**Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
**NA**

### Performance by SDG



### SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable

↓ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 ↗ Moderately improving
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

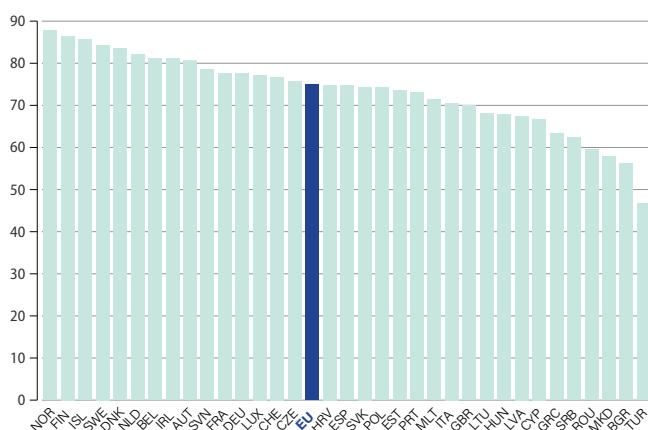
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

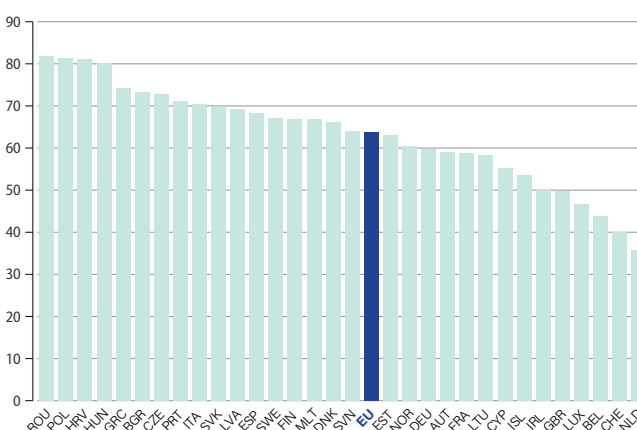
### Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



### Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)





### SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Severely materially deprived people (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	1.1	2022	●	↑

### SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	*	17.9	2016	●	●
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.25	2019	●	↑	
Yield gap closure (%)	NA	NA	●	●	
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●	
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●	
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●	

### SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	NA	NA	●	●	
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	NA	NA	●	●	
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	NA	NA	●	●	
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●	
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●	
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	26.0	2020	●	↑	
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	NA	NA	●	●	
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●	
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	114	2019	●	●	
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	5.7	2020	●	↑	
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●	
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	68	2021	●	↓	
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	NA	NA	●	●	
Smoking prevalence (%)	NA	NA	●	●	
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	NA	NA	●	●	
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	NA	NA	●	●	
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	5.7	2021	●	↑	
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	NA	NA	●	●	

### SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	NA	NA	●	●	
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	NA	NA	●	●	
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	402.6	2018	●	●	
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	NA	NA	●	●	
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	6.9	2018	●	●	
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	NA	NA	●	●	
Adult participation in learning (%)	NA	NA	●	●	

### SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	NA	NA	●	●	
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●	
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	NA	NA	●	●	
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	24.6	2021	●	●	
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	11.3	2021	●	●	
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	NA	NA	●	●	

### SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	NA	NA	●	●	
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	29.6	2019	●	↑	
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	2.0	2017	●	↑	
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	2518.9	2018	●	●	
Population using safely managed water services (%)	88.9	2020	●	↑	
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	40.3	2018	●	●	

### SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	NA	NA	●	●	
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	37.6	2019	●	↑	
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.4	2019	●	↑	

### SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.63	2020	●	↓	
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	NA	NA	●	●	
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	NA	NA	●	●	
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	NA	NA	●	●	
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	NA	NA	●	●	
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●	

### SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.1	2018	●	↑	
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	31.1	2018	●	●	

### SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	0.2	2019	●	↓	
R&D personnel (% of active population)	NA	NA	●	●	
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	0.3	2018	●	●	
Households with broadband access (%)	75	2021	●	●	
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●	
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	35	2021	●	●	
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	2.4	2018	●	↓	
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	*	7.0	2019	●	●
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	0.6	2021	●	↑	

### SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	*	33.0	2011	●	●
Palma ratio	1.27	2018	●	●	

### SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	11.1	2018	●	●	
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	NA	NA	●	●	
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	0.0	2017	●	●	
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	NA	NA	●	●	
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●	
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	NA	NA	●	●	

### SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●	
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	NA	NA	●	●	
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	49.0	2018	●	●	
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	1.7	2018	●	●	
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	9.3	2015	●	↑	
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	1.6	2015	●	↑	
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	1.8	2021	●	↑	

### SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	6.5	2020	●	↓	
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	0.7	2018	●	↓	
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	70.1	2020	●	●	

### SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	NA	NA	●	●	
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●	
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	0.0	2018	●	↑	
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	1.2	2018	●	↑	
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	NA	NA	●	●	
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	NA	NA	●	●	

### SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	29.0	2021	●	↑	
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	100.0	2021	●	↑	
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●	
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●	
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.90	2022	●	↑	
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.5	2018	●	●	

### SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●	
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	NA	NA	●	●	
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●	
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.58	2020	●	↑	
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.41	2020	●	↓	
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.45	2020	●	↓	
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	35	2021	●	↓	
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	31.8	2019	●	↓	
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.00	2021	●	●	
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	65.6	2022	●	↓	

### SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	NA	NA	●	●	
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	NA	NA	●	●	
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	*	0	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	61.2	2019	●	↑	

\* Imputed data point

### Overall Performance

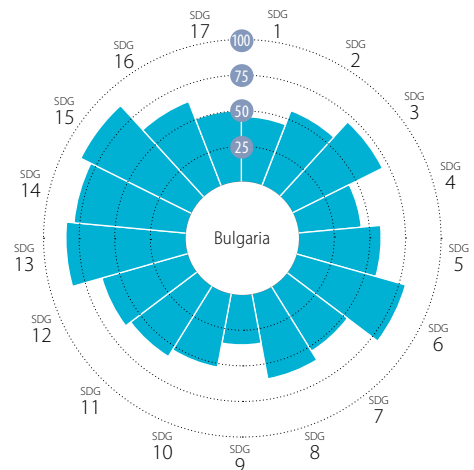
Index score



Index Rank

**Bulgaria**  
**33**

### Performance by SDG



### SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable

↓ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 ↗ Moderately improving
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

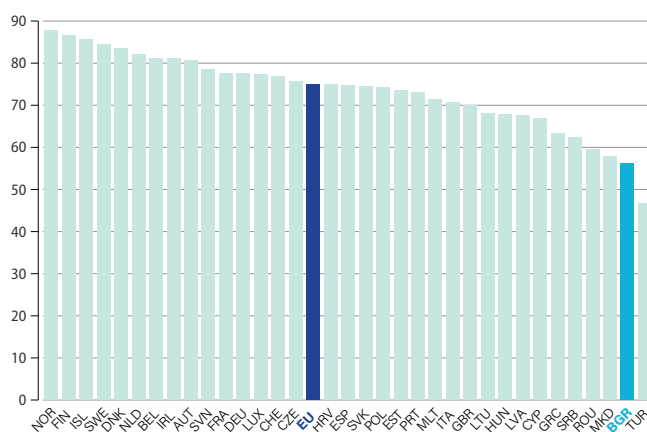
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

### Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



### Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	22.1	2021	●	↓
Severely materially deprived people (%)	19.4	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	3.2	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	13.6	2019	●	↔
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.35	2019	●	→
Yield gap closure (%)	54.0	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	28.8	2019	●	→
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	7.2	2019	●	↑
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	541.7	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	71.4	2021	●	↓
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	2.4	2020	●	→
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	67.6	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	29.6	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	2.5	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	19.0	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	419.7	2019	●	↔
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	8.0	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	63	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	6.1	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	6.7	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	89	2021	●	↓
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	1.7	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	38	2020	●	↓
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	35.6	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	5.4	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	7	2020	●	↔

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	80.1	2020	●	↓
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	12.2	2021	●	↔
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	426.7	2018	●	↓
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	46.5	2018	●	↓
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	16.1	2018	●	→
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	33.6	2021	●	↔
Adult participation in learning (%)	1.8	2021	●	↓

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	12.7	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	8.4	2021	●	→
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	26.2	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	24.6	2021	●	↔
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	21.7	2021	●	→
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	28.2	2021	●	↓

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	7.0	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	65.1	2020	●	↔
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	1.8	2017	●	→
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	2269.6	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	97.6	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	72.2	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	23.7	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	23.3	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.0	2019	●	→

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.61	2020	●	↓
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	10508	2017	●	●
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	17.6	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	5.1	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	3.4	2019	●	↔
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	10.0	2021	●	↓

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.1	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	45.5	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	0.9	2020	●	↓
R&D personnel (% of active population)	0.8	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	5.8	2021	●	→
Households with broadband access (%)	84	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	19	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	31	2021	●	→
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	2.8	2018	●	↓
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	16.5	2022	●	→
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	1.0	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	39.7	2021	●	↓
Palma ratio	1.89	2019	●	↓

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	9.2	2018	●	→
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	44.1	2021	●	↔
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	34.6	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	11.0	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	11.6	2021	●	↔
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	19.6	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	2.6	2020	●	↓
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2.8	2019	●	↑
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	46.3	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	2.3	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	23.0	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	2.8	2015	●	→
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	1.9	2021	●	→

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	5.4	2020	●	↔
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	0.8	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	23.9	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	89.6	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	62.9	2018	●	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	5.0	2018	●	↑
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.0	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	99.7	2021	●	↑

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	99.3	2021	●	↑
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	98.7	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	2.5	2019	●	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	29.8	2019	●	↔
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.94	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	1.1	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	1.0	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	19.1	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	4.1	2020	●	↓
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.68	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.52	2020	●	↓
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.46	2020	●	↓
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	42	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	9.7	2019	●	→
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.18	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	59.1	2022	●	↓

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.12	2021	●	→
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	NA	NA	●	●
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	58	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	82.3	2019	●	↑



## ▼ Overall Performance

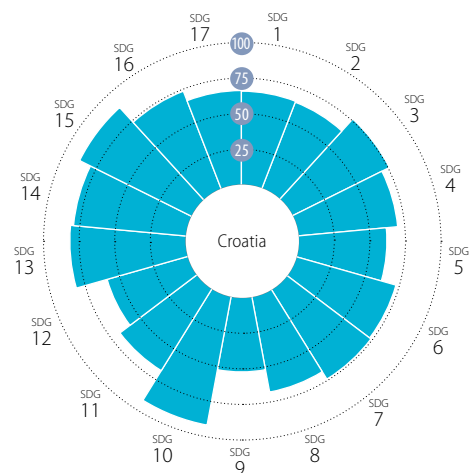
Index score



Index Rank

**Croatia**  
**17**

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
➔ Decreasing   
 ➔ Stagnating   
 ➔ Moderately improving   
 ➔ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

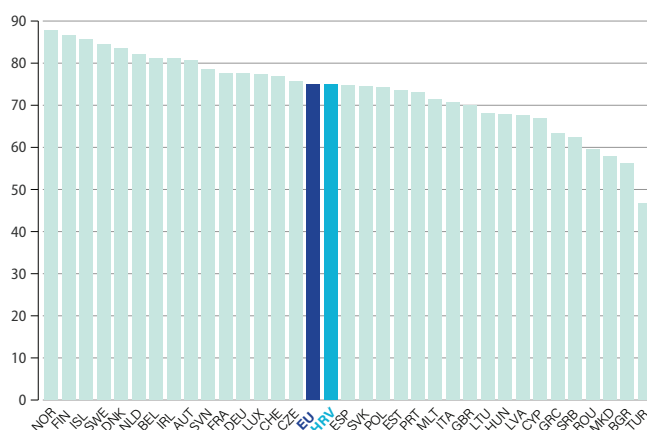
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	19.2	2021	●	→
Severely materially deprived people (%)	6.9	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	1.6	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	23.0	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.36	2019	●	↑
Yield gap closure (%)	65.3	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	53.4	2019	●	↑
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	21.0	2019	●	↓
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	76.8	2021	●	↓
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	62.8	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	38.0	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	3.7	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	6.6	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	360.9	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	14.0	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	32	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	4.6	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	5.9	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	89	2021	●	↓
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	4.0	2019	●	→
Smoking prevalence (%)	36	2020	●	↓
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	10.4	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.3	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	19	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	78.8	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	2.4	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	471.9	2018	●	↓
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	25.4	2018	●	↓
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	8.5	2018	●	↑
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	35.7	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	5.1	2021	●	→

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	11.2	2020	●	→
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	10.5	2021	●	↓
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	15.2	2021	●	↑
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	31.8	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	23.4	2021	●	→
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	20.9	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.7	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	36.9	2020	●	→
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	0.4	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	2905.6	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	82.1	2007	●	●
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	67.8	2020	●	↓

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	5.7	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	31.0	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.3	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.70	2020	●	→
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	14820	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	14.9	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	7.5	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	3.0	2019	●	↓
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	4.9	2021	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.2	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	58.4	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.3	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	0.9	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	6.7	2021	●	→
Households with broadband access (%)	86	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	10	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	63	2021	●	↑
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.0	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	22.0	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	2.2	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	29.2	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	1.11	2018	●	●

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	10.2	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	34.2	2021	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	29.5	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	9.4	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	4.5	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	16.0	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	5.1	2020	●	→
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	1.5	2020	●	↓
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	12.8	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	3.2	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	14.4	2015	●	→
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	4.8	2015	●	→
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	6.7	2021	●	↓

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	4.1	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	1.2	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	465.6	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	95.7	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	62.0	2018	●	→
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	14.4	2018	●	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	4.3	2018	●	→
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.0	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	83.2	2021	●	→

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	80.8	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	100.0	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	1.6	2019	●	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.90	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	1.4	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.8	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	2.4	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.70	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.43	2020	●	→
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.56	2020	●	↓
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	47	2021	●	↓
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	35.4	2019	●	↓
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.07	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	70.4	2022	●	↓

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	NA	NA	●	●
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	NA	NA	●	●
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	56	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	68.4	2019	●	→

## ▼ Overall Performance

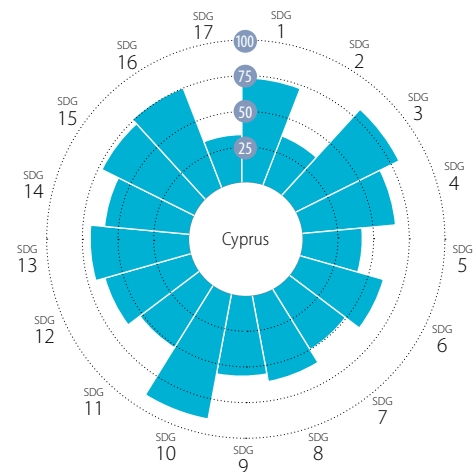
Index score



Index Rank

**Cyprus**  
**32**

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
→ Stagnating   
↗ Moderately improving   
↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
● Information unavailable

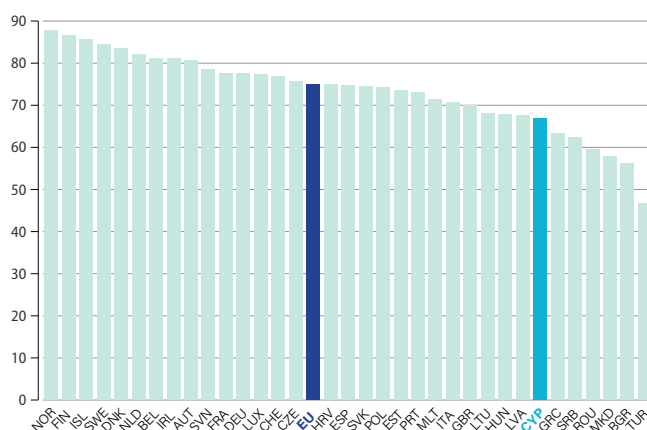
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

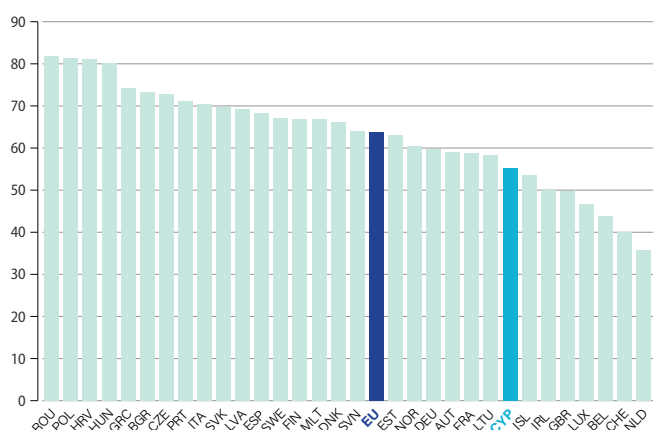
## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	13.8	2021	●	↑
Severely materially deprived people (%)	8.3	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.2	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	15.2	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.36	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	38.0	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	194.0	2015	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	51.9	2019	●	↑
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	81.8	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	NA	NA	●	●
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	77.2	2021	●	→
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	24.7	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	0.4	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	5.7	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	176.9	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	4.4	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	16	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2.8	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	5.4	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	86	2021	●	↓
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	0.4	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	28	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	14.0	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.3	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	0	2020	●	→

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	91.1	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	10.2	2021	●	↓
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	438.0	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	39.0	2018	●	↑
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	9.0	2018	●	↑
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	58.3	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	9.7	2021	●	↑

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	9.0	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	12.2	2021	●	↓
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	31.9	2021	●	↑
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	14.3	2021	●	→
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	8.5	2021	●	↓
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	19.4	2021	●	↓

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.4	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	82.7	2018	●	●
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	70.3	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	9197.4	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	99.8	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	77.1	2020	●	→

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	19.4	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	16.9	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.2	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.63	2020	●	●
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	20139	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	15.4	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	7.6	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	2.5	2019	●	→
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	7.6	2021	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.3	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	161.3	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	0.8	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	0.5	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	49.1	2021	●	→
Households with broadband access (%)	93	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	2	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	50	2021	●	↑
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	2.9	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	39.0	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	4.7	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	29.4	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	1.20	2018	●	●

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	36.2	2018	●	→
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	5.1	2021	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	16.4	2020	●	↓
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	39.1	2020	●	↓
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	2.5	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	13.4	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	3.4	2020	●	→
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	NA	NA	●	●
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	17.8	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	6.5	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	6.7	2015	●	→
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	8.5	2015	●	→
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	10.3	2021	●	→

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	5.4	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	2.4	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	0.0	2018	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	93.3	2021	●	→
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	54.3	2018	●	→
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	25.1	2018	●	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	23.1	2018	●	↑
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.3	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	49.6	2021	●	→

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	74.1	2021	●	↑
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	36.6	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	1.1	2019	●	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	48.8	2019	●	↑
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.99	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	1.3	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	1.4	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	10.4	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.68	2020	●	●
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.55	2020	●	●
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.66	2020	●	●
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	53	2021	●	↓
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	31.9	2019	●	↓
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.00	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	66.0	2022	●	↓

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.07	2021	●	↓
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	NA	NA	●	●
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	85	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	80.8	2019	●	↑

The Republic of Cyprus is recognized by all members of the United Nations with the exception of Türkiye. Depending on data sources, the information in this document relates either to the area under the effective control of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus or also cover the areas not under its effective control. As such, the data should be interpreted with caution.

## ▼ Overall Performance

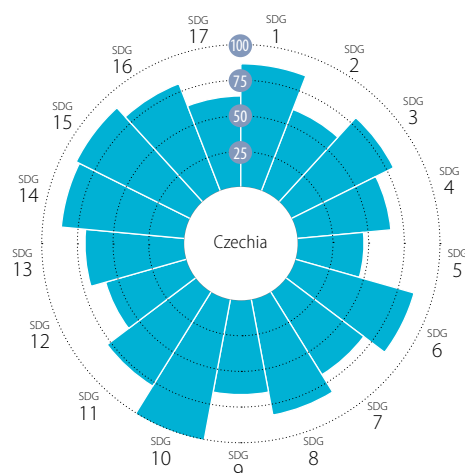
Index score



Index Rank

**Czechia**  
**7**

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↗ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

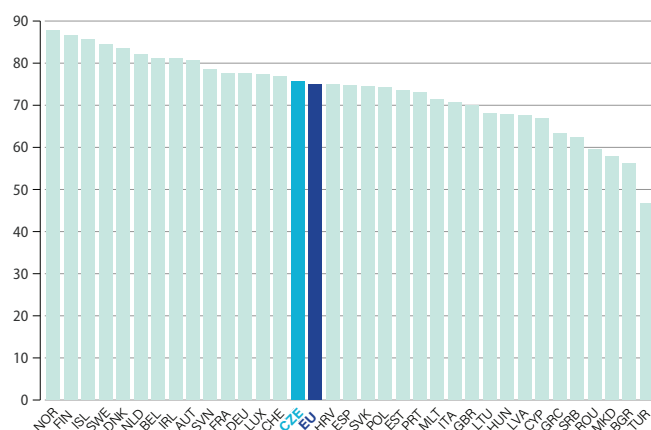
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

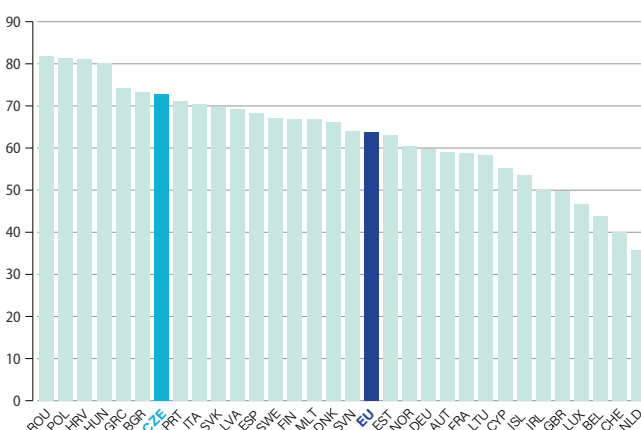
## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)





## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	8.6	2021	●	↑
Severely materially deprived people (%)	2.4	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.2	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	19.8	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.38	2019	●	→
Yield gap closure (%)	57.8	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	75.6	2019	●	↑
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	21.8	2019	●	↑
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	77.4	2021	●	↓
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	3.9	2020	●	→
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	67.8	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	33.0	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	0.3	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	3.9	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	308.6	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	11.2	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	33	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2.9	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	4.8	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	94	2021	●	→
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	3.9	2019	●	→
Smoking prevalence (%)	30	2020	●	↓
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2021	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	11.5	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.9	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	9	2020	●	→

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	85.8	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	6.4	2021	●	→
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	495.5	2018	●	↑
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	18.8	2018	●	↑
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	16.9	2018	●	↑
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	34.9	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	5.8	2021	●	↓

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	16.4	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	15.4	2021	●	→
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	27.8	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	21.8	2021	●	→
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	23.0	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	10.0	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.1	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	83.4	2020	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	19.5	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	2226.9	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	97.9	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	85.2	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	2.2	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	17.3	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.2	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.75	2020	●	↑
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	20845	2021	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	10.9	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	2.6	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	2.0	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	3.5	2021	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.2	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	38.4	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	2.0	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.6	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	19.0	2021	●	↓
Households with broadband access (%)	89	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	7	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	60	2021	●	↑
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.5	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	32.9	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	2.5	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	24.8	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	0.84	2019	●	↑

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	0.8	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	33.4	2021	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	45.4	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	6.8	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	6.2	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	14.4	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	13.4	2020	●	↑
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2.3	2019	●	↓
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	20.3	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	4.2	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	20.0	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	7.6	2015	●	→
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	9.7	2021	●	↑

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	8.2	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	1.6	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	455.4	2021	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	81.3	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.1	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	94.7	2021	●	↑
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	92.1	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	2.4	2019	●	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	17.7	2019	●	↑
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.97	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	1.6	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.7	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	6.1	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	2.0	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.65	2020	●	→
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.58	2020	●	↓
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.73	2020	●	→
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	54	2021	●	↓
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	8.5	2019	●	↑
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.45	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	80.5	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.13	2021	●	→
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	3.0	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	58	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	85.1	2019	●	→

### Overall Performance

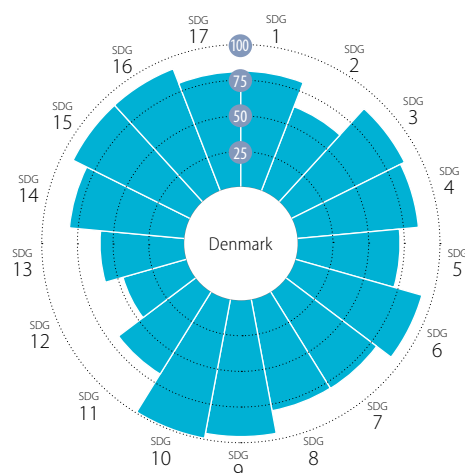
Index score



Index Rank

**Denmark**  
**3**

### Performance by SDG



### SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↗ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

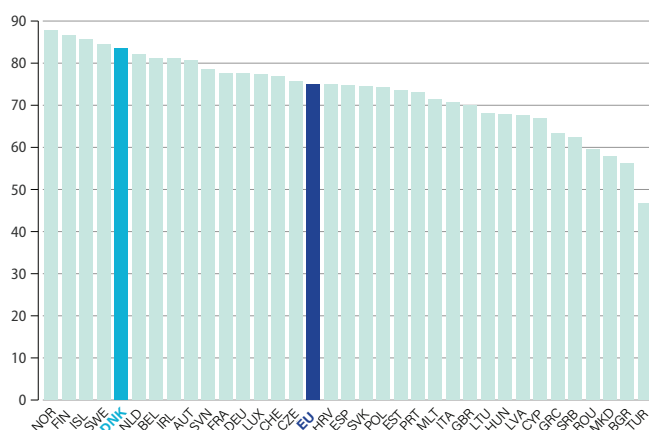
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

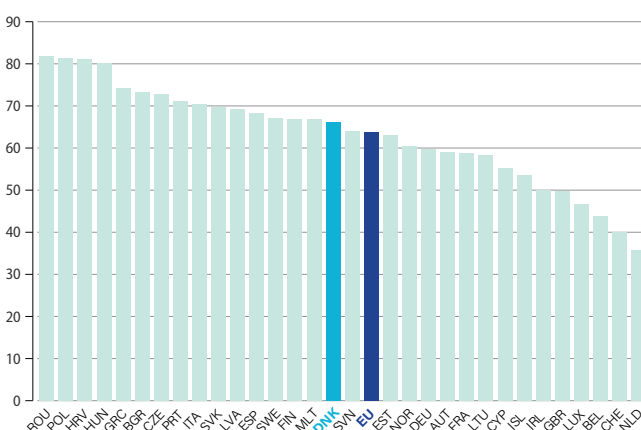
### Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



### Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)





## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	12.3	2021	●	→
Severely materially deprived people (%)	2.4	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.3	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	16.5	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.50	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	74.1	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	80.0	2015	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	24.7	2019	●	→
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	1.8	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	81.4	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	1.5	2020	●	→
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	67.0	2021	●	→
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	23.6	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	1.1	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	4.9	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	217.8	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	10.6	2019	●	→
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	13	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	3.6	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	2.7	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	95	2021	●	↑
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	9.1	2019	●	→
Smoking prevalence (%)	16	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2021	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	12.4	2021	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	7.7	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	38	2020	●	→

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	97.6	2020	●	→
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	9.8	2021	●	→
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	501.1	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	18.7	2018	●	→
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	11.6	2018	●	↓
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	49.1	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	22.4	2021	●	→

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	13.9	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	6.9	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	13.7	2021	●	→
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	41.3	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	34.9	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	22.9	2021	●	↑

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.4	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	97.7	2020	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	1.5	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	3552.9	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	96.7	2020	●	→
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	91.9	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	2.8	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	31.7	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	0.9	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.95	2020	●	↑
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	26058	2021	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	8.4	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	5.6	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	1.4	2019	●	→
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	6.0	2021	●	→

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.5	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	118.8	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	3.0	2020	●	→
R&D personnel (% of active population)	2.1	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	452.4	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	96	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	2	2021	●	→
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	69	2021	●	→
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	4.0	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	59.7	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	5.5	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	27.0	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	0.95	2019	●	→

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	7.4	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	26.3	2021	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	45.0	2020	●	→
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	16.8	2020	●	→
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	15.5	2021	●	↓
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	10.0	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	7.7	2020	●	↓
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	3.2	2020	●	↑
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	11.7	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	10.2	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	31.2	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	13.9	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	9.8	2021	●	↑

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	4.5	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	4.1	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	784.1	2021	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	92.0	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	35.7	2018	●	↓
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	29.1	2018	●	↓
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	3.6	2018	●	→
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.1	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	87.0	2021	●	→

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	88.8	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	99.5	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.97	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	1.7	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.6	2019	●	→
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	7.3	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	2.4	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.79	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.88	2020	●	↑
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.94	2020	●	↑
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	88	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	34.5	2019	●	↓
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.36	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	90.3	2022	●	↑

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.70	2021	●	→
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	6.1	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	56	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	86.1	2019	●	→

## ▼ Overall Performance

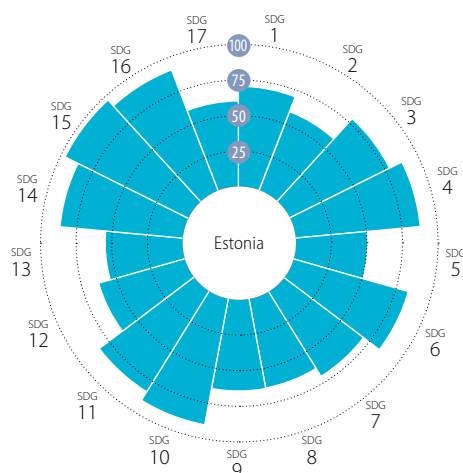
Index score



Index Rank

**Estonia**  
**10**

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↗ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

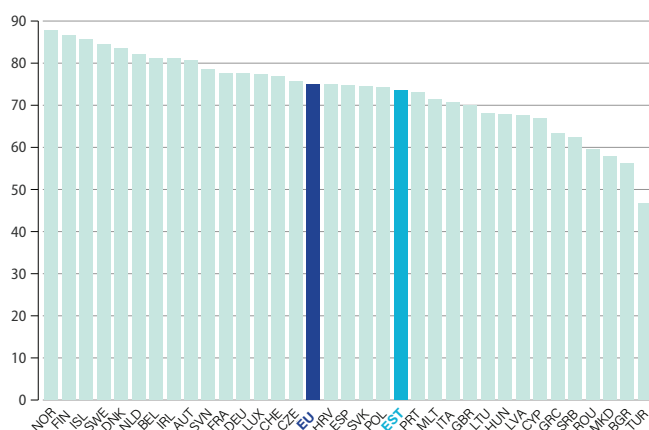
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

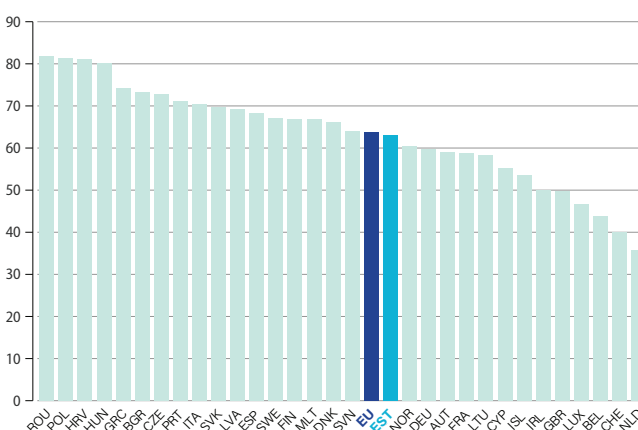
## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	20.6	2021	●	→
Severely materially deprived people (%)	2.7	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.1	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	21.8	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.50	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	40.9	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	28.0	2012	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	9.3	2019	●	→
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	76.9	2021	●	↓
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	NA	NA	●	●
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	58.3	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	41.4	2021	●	→
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	2.9	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	10.0	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	363.5	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	14.9	2019	●	↗
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	13	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2.1	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	4.4	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	89	2021	●	↓
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	2.9	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	18	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	95.9	2021	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	19.9	2021	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.6	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	23	2020	●	→

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	91.9	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	9.8	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	525.5	2018	●	↑
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	8.8	2018	●	↑
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	7.2	2018	●	↑
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	43.2	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	18.4	2021	●	↑

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	21.1	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	3.7	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	28.6	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	26.7	2021	●	→
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	9.1	2021	●	→
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	22.6	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	2.9	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	83.0	2020	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	10.0	2015	●	●
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	4806.0	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	95.8	2020	●	→
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	93.1	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	2.0	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	30.1	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	2.5	2019	●	→

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.68	2020	●	↓
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	17260	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	11.2	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	7.0	2020	●	→
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	2.5	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	10.0	2021	●	→

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.3	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	122.8	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.8	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.0	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	51.9	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	92	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	4	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	56	2021	●	↓
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.1	2018	●	→
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	37.9	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	3.2	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	30.6	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	1.10	2019	●	↑

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	2.5	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	18.8	2021	●	→
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	28.9	2020	●	→
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	10.2	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	4.4	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	4.8	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	17.3	2020	●	↑
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	4.6	2019	●	↑
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	11.7	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	7.9	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	25.4	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	7.9	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	11.7	2021	●	↗

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	7.9	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	3.4	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	7.2	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	67.7	2021	●	↗
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	1.6	2018	●	↑
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	5.3	2018	●	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	5.8	2018	●	→
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.1	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	97.6	2021	●	↑

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	94.9	2021	●	↑
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	92.9	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	1.5	2019	●	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	5.0	2019	●	↑
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.99	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.3	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	2.0	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	5.5	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.2	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.70	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.80	2020	●	→
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.83	2020	●	↑
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	74	2021	●	↑
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	19.8	2019	●	↑
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.00	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	88.8	2022	●	↑

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.17	2021	●	→
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	0.4	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	70	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	86.1	2019	●	→

## ▼ Overall Performance

Index score

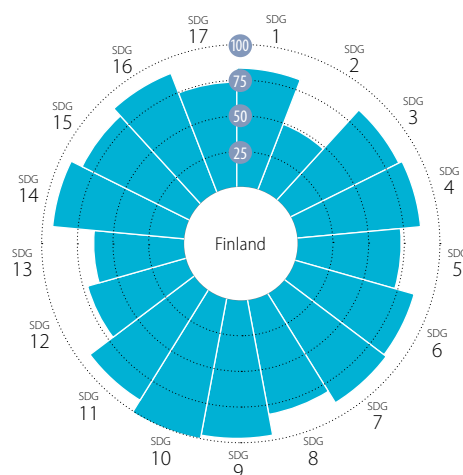


Index Rank

Finland

1

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↗ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

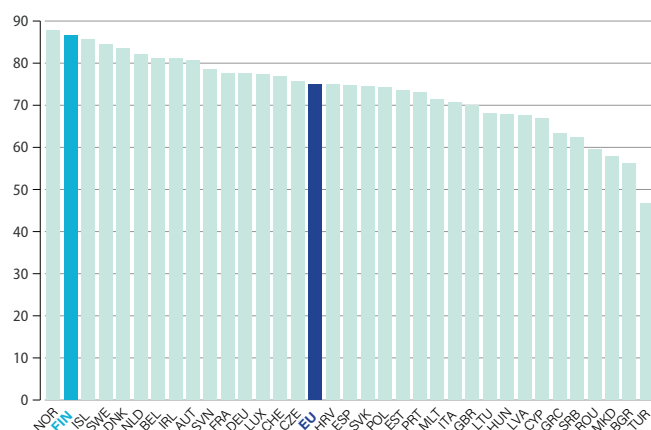
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

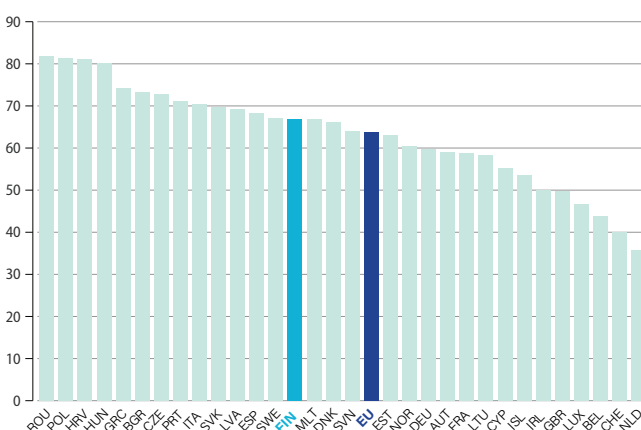
## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	10.8	2021	●	↑
Severely materially deprived people (%)	2.6	2020	●	→
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.2	2022	●	→

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	20.9	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.56	2019	●	→
Yield gap closure (%)	51.7	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	43.7	2019	●	↑
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	12.4	2019	●	↑
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	361.5	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	82.0	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	1.8	2020	●	→
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	70.1	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	25.2	2021	●	→
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	3.9	2021	●	→
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	3.6	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	222.8	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	13.5	2019	●	→
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	7	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2.3	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	4.0	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	89	2021	●	↓
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	11.0	2014	●	●
Smoking prevalence (%)	15	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2021	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	16.4	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	7.8	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	53	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	90.9	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	8.2	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	516.4	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	12.9	2018	●	→
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	10.5	2018	●	→
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	40.1	2021	●	→
Adult participation in learning (%)	30.5	2021	●	↑

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	16.7	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	2.0	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	13.0	2021	●	→
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	46.0	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	35.2	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	23.9	2021	●	↑

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.2	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	85.0	2020	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	0.6	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	3124.9	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	99.6	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	84.1	2020	●	→

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	1.3	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	43.8	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	0.6	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.86	2020	●	↑
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	25816	2021	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	9.3	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	7.8	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	1.1	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	2.8	2021	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.3	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	95.8	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	2.9	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	2.0	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	381.5	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	97	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	3	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	79	2021	●	↑
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	4.0	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	54.5	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	4.2	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	25.7	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	0.94	2020	●	→

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	0.7	2018	●	→
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	21.0	2021	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	41.6	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	4.5	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	4.3	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	5.1	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	6.2	2020	●	↓
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	5.8	2019	●	↑
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	26.6	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	7.3	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	15.9	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	9.9	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	4.4	2021	●	↑

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	7.1	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	2.7	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	0.1	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	88.1	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	3.1	2018	●	↑
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	0.0	2018	●	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	0.2	2018	●	→
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.1	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	60.9	2021	●	→

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	71.8	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	75.8	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.99	2022	●	↑
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	2.0	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	1.2	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	7.0	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	6.7	2020	●	↓
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.71	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.82	2020	●	↑
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.92	2020	●	↑
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	88	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	21.5	2019	●	→
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.47	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	88.4	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.47	2021	●	↑
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	5.2	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	60	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	88.5	2019	●	→



## ▼ Overall Performance

Index score

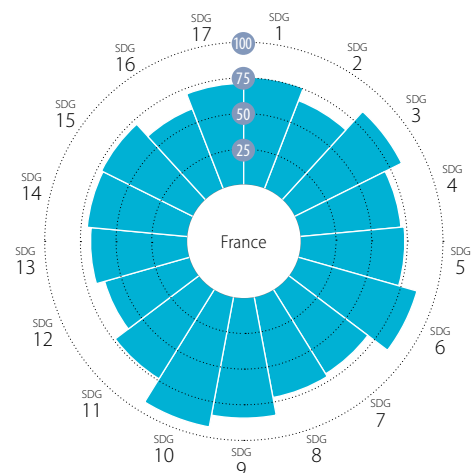


Index Rank

France

11

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↗ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

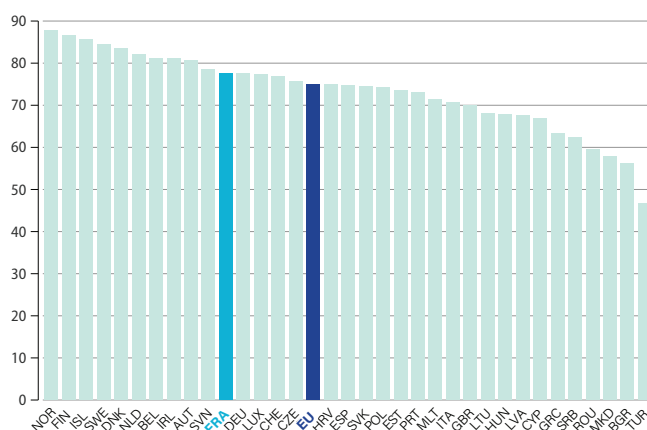
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

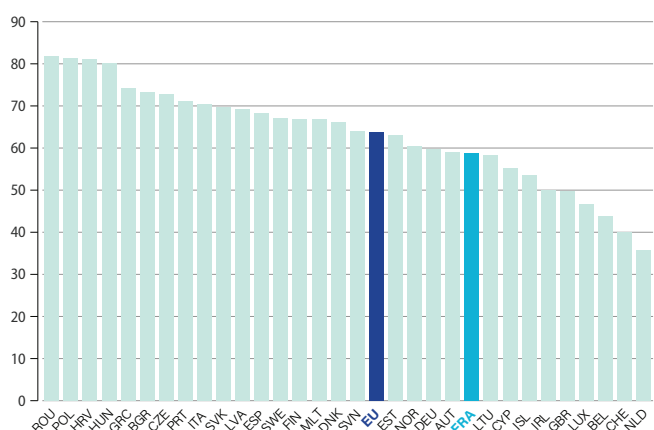
## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	14.4	2021	●	→
Severely materially deprived people (%)	5.0	2020	●	→
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.3	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	15.0	2019	●	→
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.48	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	75.0	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	38.0	2019	●	→
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	18.8	2019	●	↑
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	121.3	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	82.5	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	3.6	2020	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	67.9	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	21.7	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	3.2	2021	●	↓
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	8.2	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	192.0	2017	●	●
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	12.8	2017	●	●
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	10	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	4.4	2020	●	→
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	3.7	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	92	2021	●	↑
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	4.1	2019	●	●
Smoking prevalence (%)	28	2020	●	→
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	99.9	2021	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	8.9	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.7	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	25	2018	●	●

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	100.0	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	7.8	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	493.7	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	20.5	2018	●	↑
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	20.1	2018	●	→
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	50.3	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	11.0	2021	●	→

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	15.8	2020	●	↓
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	6.2	2021	●	→
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	14.1	2021	●	↑
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	39.1	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	45.3	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	20.9	2021	●	↗

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.4	2020	●	→
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	79.9	2020	●	↓
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	6.1	2017	●	→
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	2875.2	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	99.2	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	78.6	2020	●	↓

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	6.5	2020	●	→
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	19.1	2020	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	0.6	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.78	2020	●	↑
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	25991	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	12.8	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	8.0	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	3.5	2019	●	↓
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	7.0	2021	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.2	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	67.7	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	2.4	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.6	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	155.7	2021	●	→
Households with broadband access (%)	93	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	3	2021	●	→
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	62	2021	●	↑
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	4.0	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	67.0	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	1.8	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	29.3	2021	●	→
Palma ratio	1.08	2019	●	↗

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	5.2	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	24.6	2021	●	→
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	42.3	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	18.0	2020	●	↓
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	5.6	2021	●	→
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	10.4	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	22.2	2020	●	↑
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	1.8	2019	●	→
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	6.9	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	6.1	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	22.8	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	12.8	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	6.1	2021	●	↗

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	4.2	2020	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	2.5	2018	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	1.3	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	75.7	2021	●	→
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	21.0	2018	●	↓
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	16.2	2018	●	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	13.2	2018	●	↑
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.4	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	81.9	2021	●	↗

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	80.9	2021	●	↑
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	78.0	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	1.1	2014	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	18.2	2019	●	→
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.83	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	7.1	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.4	2017	●	●
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	17.7	2020	●	↓
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	10.8	2020	●	↓
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.65	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.66	2020	●	↓
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.72	2020	●	→
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	71	2021	●	↑
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	29.8	2019	●	→
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	4.43	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	78.5	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.52	2021	●	↑
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	46.7	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	67	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	86.3	2019	●	→



### Overall Performance

Index score

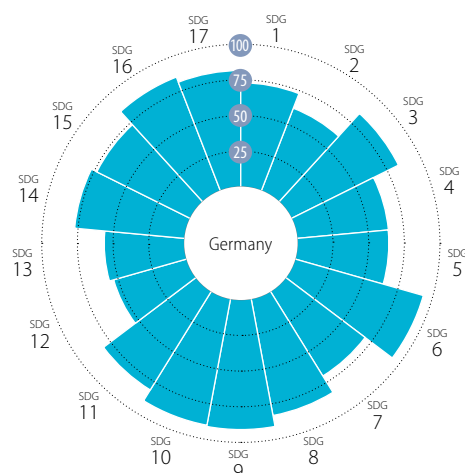


Index Rank

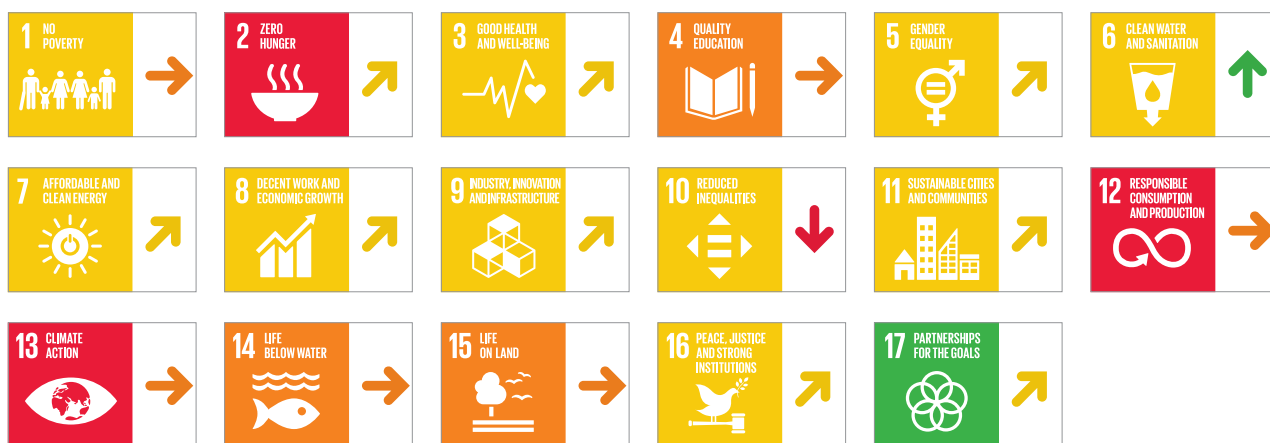
Germany

6

### Performance by SDG



### SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↗ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

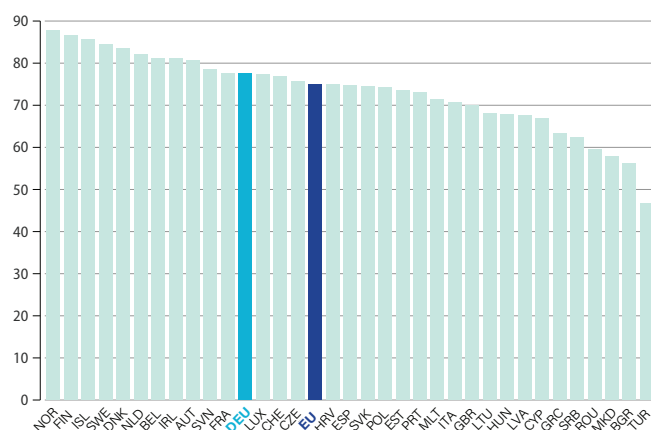
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

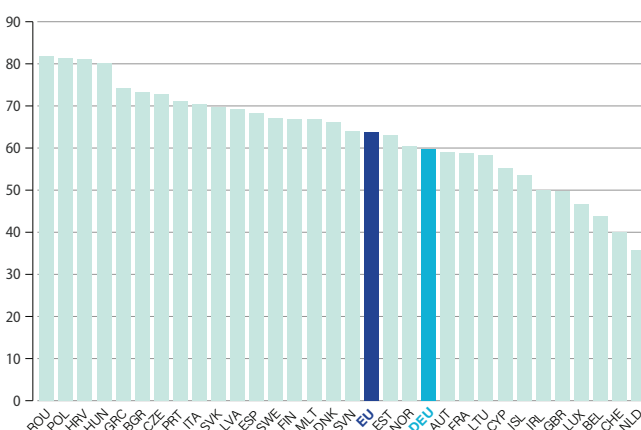
### Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



### Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	15.8	2021	●	↑
Severely materially deprived people (%)	5.6	2020	●	↓
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.5	2022	●	→

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	19.0	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.44	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	77.2	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	53.4	2019	●	↑
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	29.9	2019	●	↑
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	96.7	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	80.9	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	2.8	2020	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	63.2	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	26.7	2021	●	→
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	0.3	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	5.5	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	231.3	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	10.2	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	15	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	3.7	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	3.3	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	91	2021	●	→
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	5.0	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	23	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	99.9	2020	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	11.6	2021	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.8	2021	●	→
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	18	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	93.7	2020	●	→
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	11.8	2021	●	↓
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	500.4	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	19.6	2018	●	→
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	18.6	2018	●	↓
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	35.7	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	7.7	2021	●	↓

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	18.3	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	7.3	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	20.7	2021	●	↑
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	34.5	2021	●	↓
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	36.0	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	19.0	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	96.0	2016	●	●
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	5.5	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	3304.1	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	100.0	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	97.1	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	3.2	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	19.3	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.1	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.84	2020	●	→
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	30304	2021	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	9.2	2021	●	→
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	3.9	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	0.8	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	8.6	2021	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.3	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	100.5	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	3.1	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.8	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	312.3	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	92	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	2	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	49	2021	●	↓
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	4.4	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	75.9	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	2.3	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	30.9	2021	●	↓
Palma ratio	1.09	2019	●	↓

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	3.1	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	21.8	2021	●	→
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	68.3	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	12.0	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	10.7	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	10.9	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	13.4	2020	●	→
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2.0	2019	●	→
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	11.2	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	7.9	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	13.5	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	15.9	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	12.2	2021	●	↑

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	7.7	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	3.0	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	176.2	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	90.4	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	25.6	2018	●	↑
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	18.8	2018	●	↓
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	8.0	2018	●	↓
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.3	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	77.1	2021	●	→

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	79.1	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	79.3	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	26.3	2019	●	↑
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.98	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	5.7	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.4	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	8.2	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	3.4	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.78	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.84	2020	●	↑
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.86	2020	●	↑
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	80	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	23.1	2019	●	→
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	1.47	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	82.0	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.74	2021	●	↑
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	83.2	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	58	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	87.5	2019	●	→

### Overall Performance

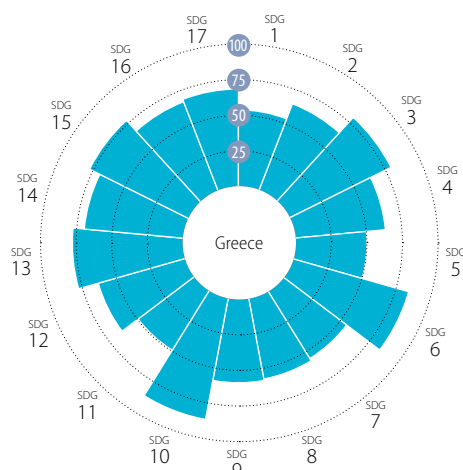
Index score



Index Rank

**Greece**  
**27**

### Performance by SDG



### SDG Dashboards and Trends



Major challenges, Significant challenges, Challenges remain, SDG achieved, Information unavailable, Decreasing, Stagnating, Moderately improving, On track or maintaining SDG achievement, Information unavailable

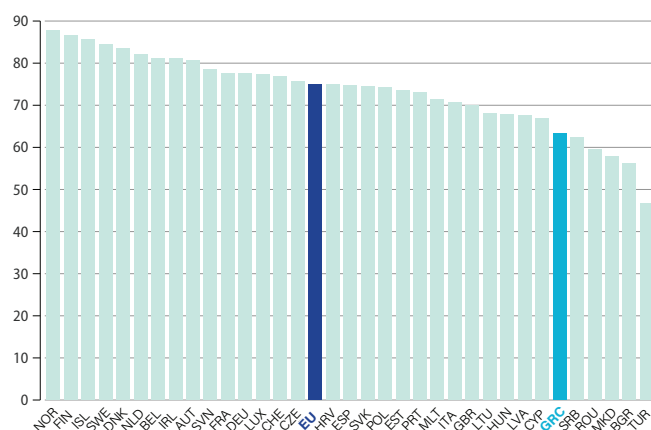
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

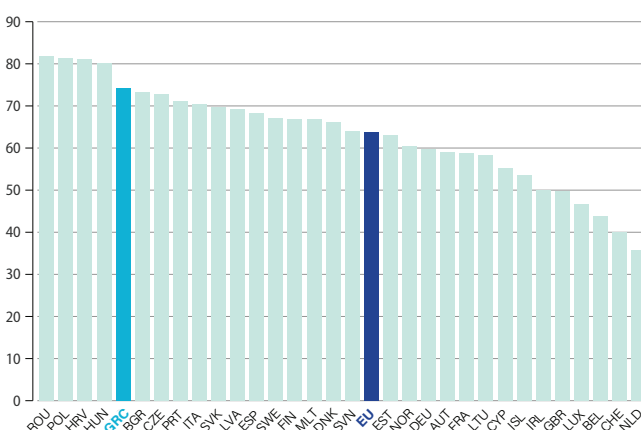
### Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



### Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	19.6	2021	●	↗
Severely materially deprived people (%)	16.6	2020	●	↗
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	2.2	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	16.7	2019	●	→
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.38	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	50.6	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	59.0	2015	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	11.1	2019	●	→
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	80.3	2021	●	→
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	3.8	2020	●	→
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	78.3	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	6.0	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	8.2	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	4.5	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	231.1	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	4.6	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	23	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	4.1	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	5.5	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	97	2021	●	↑
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	0.3	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	42	2020	●	↓
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2020	●	↓
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	33.4	2020	●	↗
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.1	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	8	2020	●	↗

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	71.3	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	3.2	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	453.5	2018	●	↓
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	31.7	2018	●	→
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	10.9	2018	●	↑
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	44.2	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	3.5	2021	●	→

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	10.4	2018	●	●
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	19.8	2021	●	↓
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	24.9	2021	●	↑
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	21.3	2021	●	→
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	19.6	2021	●	↗
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	21.3	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.1	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	94.2	2019	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	39.4	2017	●	↓
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	3365.4	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	100.0	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	91.7	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	17.5	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	21.7	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.5	2019	●	→

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.57	2020	●	↗
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	14963	2020	●	→
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	17.3	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	16.3	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	0.9	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	11.3	2021	●	↗

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.2	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	47.3	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.5	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.3	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	18.5	2021	●	→
Households with broadband access (%)	85	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	13	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	52	2021	●	↑
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.2	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	43.3	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	2.2	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	32.4	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	1.14	2019	●	↑

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	6.9	2018	●	→
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	42.6	2021	●	↓
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	21.0	2019	●	↗
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	12.5	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	28.8	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	14.1	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	5.4	2020	●	→
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	NA	NA	●	●
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	27.8	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	5.0	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	15.1	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	11.8	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	5.2	2021	●	↓

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	5.0	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	1.5	2018	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	40.9	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	95.8	2021	●	→
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	62.5	2018	●	→
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	37.3	2018	●	↓
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	10.4	2018	●	↑
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.2	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	88.2	2021	●	→

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	87.3	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	90.4	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.83	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	2.9	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.8	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	18.1	2020	●	↓
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.64	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.48	2020	●	↓
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.68	2020	●	↑
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	49	2021	●	↗
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	26.6	2019	●	↑
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.29	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	55.5	2022	●	↓

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.12	2021	●	↓
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	2.2	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	46	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	85.4	2019	●	→

### Overall Performance

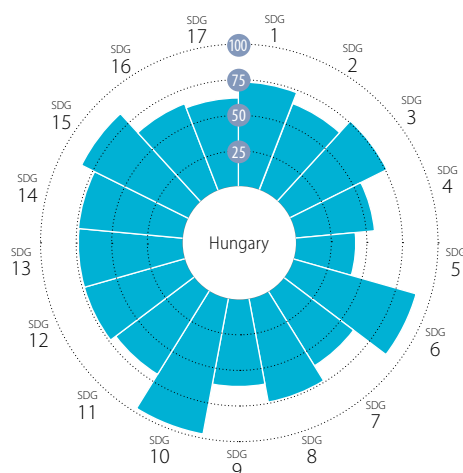
Index score



Index Rank

**Hungary**  
**23**

### Performance by SDG



### SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 ↗ Moderately improving
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

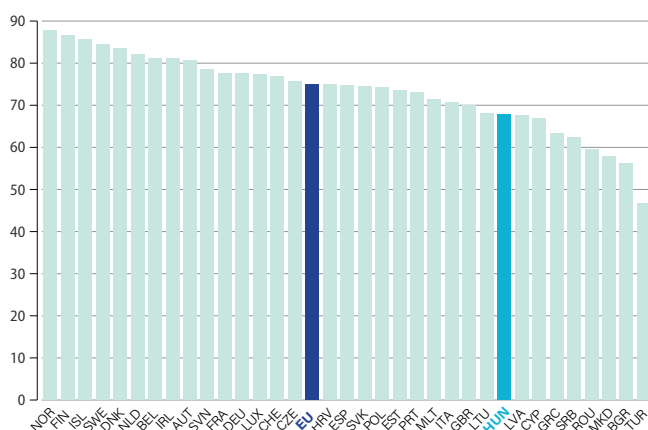
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

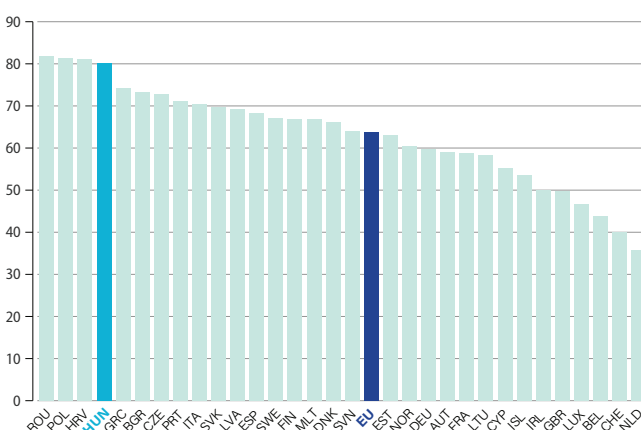
### Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



### Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)





## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	12.7	2021	●	↑
Severely materially deprived people (%)	8.0	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	1.2	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	24.5	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.41	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	64.1	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	33.3	2017	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	13.7	2019	●	→
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	15.8	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	74.5	2021	●	↓
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	4.1	2020	●	↓
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	64.8	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	25.2	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	0.9	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	4.6	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	488.5	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	15.7	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	42	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	4.0	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	4.7	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	99	2021	●	↑
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	3.7	2019	●	→
Smoking prevalence (%)	28	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	94.0	2020	●	↓
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	25.5	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.2	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	23	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	92.8	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	12.0	2021	●	→
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	479.3	2018	●	↑
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	24.1	2018	●	↑
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	21.2	2018	●	→
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	32.9	2021	●	→
Adult participation in learning (%)	5.9	2021	●	↓

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	17.2	2020	●	↓
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	10.6	2021	●	↓
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	23.1	2021	●	→
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	13.1	2021	●	→
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	9.4	2021	●	↓
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	14.0	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	1.5	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	80.9	2020	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	1.2	2017	●	→
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	1437.2	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	92.6	2020	●	→
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	87.8	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	5.4	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	13.9	2020	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.5	2019	●	→

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.66	2020	●	↓
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	15736	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	11.7	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	4.3	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	2.1	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	7.5	2021	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.1	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	38.4	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.6	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.3	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	12.1	2021	●	→
Households with broadband access (%)	91	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	8	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	49	2021	●	↓
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.3	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	37.9	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	1.4	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	27.7	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	1.02	2019	●	→

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	6.8	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	18.9	2021	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	32.0	2020	●	↓
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	20.4	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	2.5	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	14.4	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	8.7	2020	●	→
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	NA	NA	●	●
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	12.0	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	3.2	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	20.5	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	3.3	2015	●	→
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	2.1	2016	●	●

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	5.0	2020	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	1.8	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	437.3	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	60.2	2021	●	↓
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.0	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	84.3	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	86.7	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.87	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.4	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

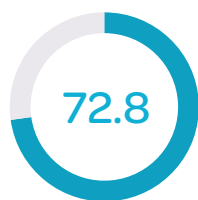
Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.8	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	5.3	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	3.7	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.51	2020	●	→
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.45	2020	●	↓
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.39	2020	●	↓
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	43	2021	●	↓
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	16.5	2019	●	↑
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.00	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	59.8	2022	●	↓

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.29	2021	●	↑
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	6.3	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	72	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	84.8	2019	●	↑

## Overall Performance

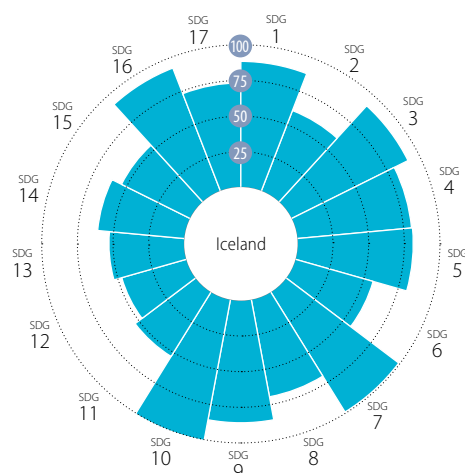
Index score



Index Rank

**Iceland**  
**12**

## Performance by SDG



## SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable

↓ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 ↗ Moderately improving
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

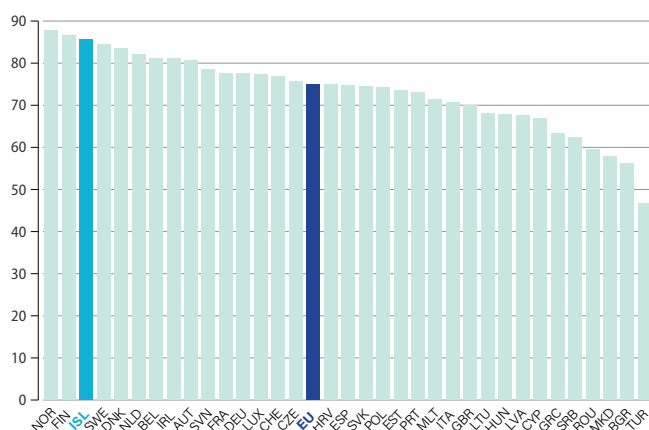
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

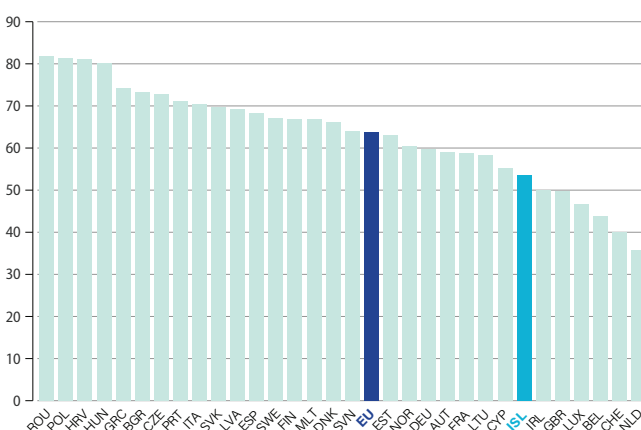
## Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)





## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	8.8	2018	●	●
Severely materially deprived people (%)	0.7	2018	●	●
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.2	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	22.3	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.58	2019	●	→
Yield gap closure (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	2.8	2019	●	↑
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	83.2	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	NA	NA	●	●
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	76.7	2018	●	●
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	20.1	2018	●	●
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	5.3	2018	●	●
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	2.8	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	162.1	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	11.3	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	8	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	1.9	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	2.2	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	92	2021	●	↑
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	1.5	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	NA	NA	●	●
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2021	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	14.8	2021	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	7.6	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	38	2020	●	●

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	96.4	2020	●	→
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	14.4	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	481.4	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	25.0	2018	●	→
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	8.9	2018	●	→
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	41.5	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	23.9	2021	●	→

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	13.0	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	7.4	2021	●	→
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	7.0	2021	●	↑
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	47.6	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	47.1	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	24.0	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.0	2018	●	●
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	1.0	2010	●	●
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	NA	NA	●	●
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	15785.4	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	100.0	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	83.7	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	1.0	2018	●	●
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	83.7	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	0.1	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	19033	2014	●	●
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	7.3	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	5.5	2020	●	↓
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	0.0	2013	●	●
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	7.0	2018	●	●

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.6	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	194.4	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	2.5	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.6	2018	●	●
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	168.1	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	98	2021	●	→
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	0	2021	●	→
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	81	2021	●	●
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.2	2018	●	→
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	44.8	2022	●	→
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	5.2	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	23.2	2018	●	●
Palma ratio	0.87	2017	●	●

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	26.0	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	27.5	2018	●	●
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	0.0	2018	●	●
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	19.1	2018	●	●
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	8.9	2018	●	●
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	5.9	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	NA	NA	●	●
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	29.4	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	13.1	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	23.0	2015	●	↑
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	12.7	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	19.3	2021	●	↓

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	8.6	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	5.6	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	0.0	2017	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	27.1	2018	●	↑
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	26.0	2018	●	↓
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	2.8	2018	●	→
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	NA	NA	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	15.2	2021	●	→

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	19.1	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	35.9	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.87	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.4	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	2.8	2018	●	●
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	4.0	2018	●	●
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	74	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	7.4	2018	●	↑
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.00	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	82.7	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.28	2021	●	↓
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	0.6	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	0	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	77.8	2019	●	↑

\* Imputed data point

## ▼ Overall Performance

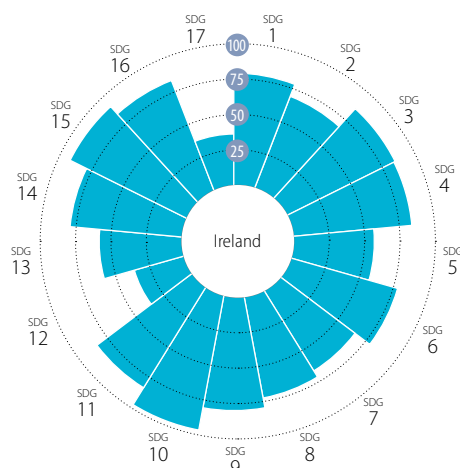
Index score



Index Rank

Ireland  
**14**

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↗ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

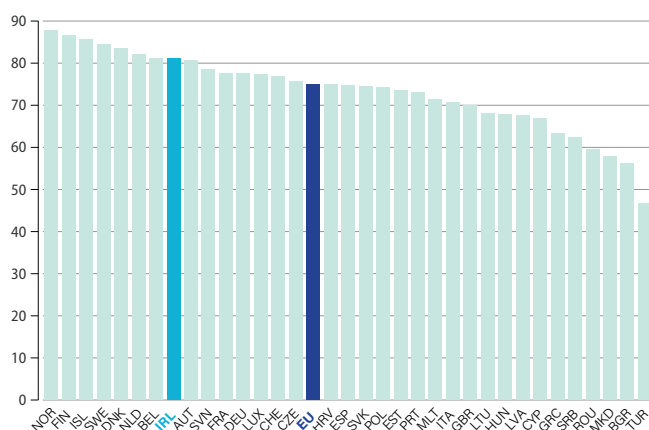
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

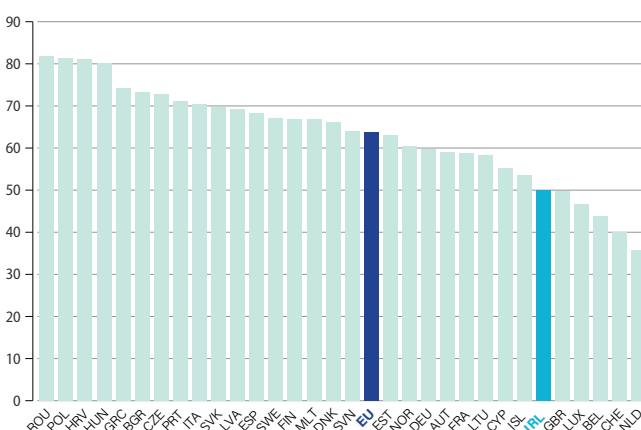
## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	12.9	2021	●	↑
Severely materially deprived people (%)	4.1	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.2	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	15.2	2017	●	●
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.32	2019	●	↑
Yield gap closure (%)	74.6	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	62.3	2017	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	27.4	2019	●	→
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	82.6	2020	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	0.4	2020	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	81.2	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	25.2	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	2.8	2021	●	→
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	5.3	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	197.9	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	8.2	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	13	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	3.0	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	2.9	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	90	2021	●	→
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	5.6	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	18	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2021	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	10.3	2021	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.8	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	15	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	100.0	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	3.3	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	504.6	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	17.0	2018	●	→
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	11.1	2018	●	↑
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	61.7	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	13.6	2021	●	↑

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	11.3	2018	●	●
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	10.0	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	27.2	2021	●	↑
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	27.7	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	30.2	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	20.0	2021	●	↓

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.1	2020	●	→
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	61.9	2019	●	→
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	3.0	2017	●	→
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	5285.6	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	97.3	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	82.9	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	3.2	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	16.2	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.1	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.82	2020	●	●
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	21965	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	9.8	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	5.7	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	1.8	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	4.3	2021	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.6	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	160.7	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.2	2020	●	→
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.4	2020	●	→
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	191.0	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	97	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	1	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	70	2021	●	↑
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.3	2018	●	→
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	54.0	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	3.8	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	26.9	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	1.07	2018	●	↑

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	5.7	2018	●	→
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	5.8	2021	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	40.4	2020	●	→
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	16.6	2020	●	↓
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	2.5	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	8.8	2019	●	→

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	1.8	2020	●	↓
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	0.9	2019	●	→
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	18.1	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	13.6	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	57.3	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	13.6	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	9.8	2021	●	↓

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	6.8	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	5.2	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	29.2	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	77.7	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	25.2	2018	●	↑
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	8.6	2018	●	↓
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	10.6	2018	●	→
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.1	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	83.2	2021	●	↑

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	83.5	2021	●	↑
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	98.7	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	1.0	2019	●	→
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	14.4	2019	●	→
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.92	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	1.7	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.3	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	11.3	2020	●	→
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	2.9	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.62	2020	●	●
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.63	2020	●	●
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.82	2020	●	●
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	74	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	20.1	2019	●	→
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.26	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	88.3	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.32	2021	●	→
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	-126.4	2018	●	↓
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	77	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	87.0	2019	●	→

## Overall Performance

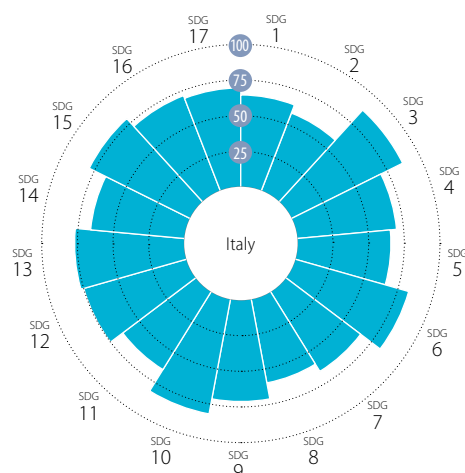
Index score



Index Rank

Italy  
**19**

## Performance by SDG



## SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↗ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

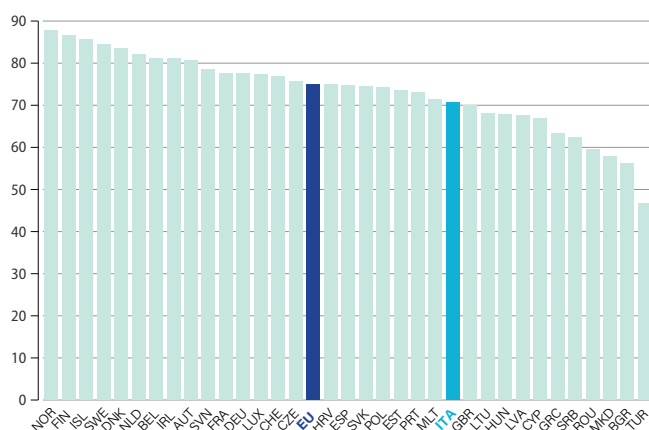
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

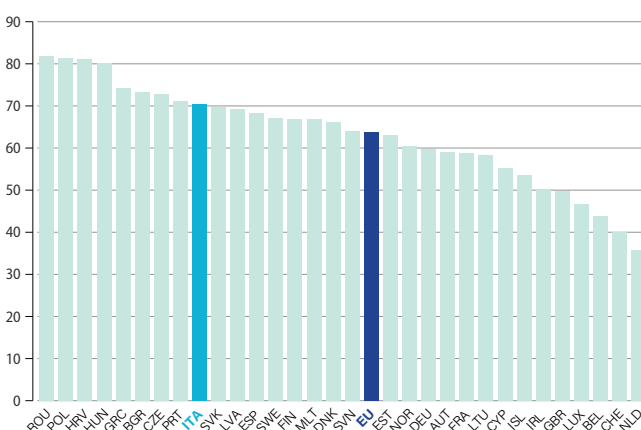
## Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



**SDG1 – No Poverty**

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	20.1	2021	●	↓
Severely materially deprived people (%)	5.9	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	2.1	2022	●	↗

**SDG2 – Zero Hunger**

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	11.7	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.44	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	58.9	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	68.0	2017	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	24.7	2019	●	↗
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	156.9	2019	●	●

**SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being**

Life expectancy at birth (years)	82.9	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	2.5	2020	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	73.6	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	7.1	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	2.6	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	6.6	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	164.9	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	5.6	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	15	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2.9	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	4.0	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	92	2021	●	↑
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	0.9	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	23	2020	●	↗
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2021	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	21.8	2021	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.5	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	12	2020	●	↗

**SDG4 – Quality Education**

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	94.6	2020	●	↗
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	12.7	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	477.0	2018	●	↓
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	25.9	2018	●	↓
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	8.5	2018	●	↑
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	28.3	2021	●	↗
Adult participation in learning (%)	9.9	2021	●	↑

**SDG5 – Gender Equality**

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	4.2	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	19.2	2021	●	↗
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	21.0	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	35.8	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	38.8	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	16.1	2021	●	↗

**SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation**

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.5	2020	●	↗
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	59.6	2015	●	●
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	15.6	2017	●	↓
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	3058.6	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	95.8	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	95.8	2020	●	↑

**SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy**

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	8.1	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	20.4	2020	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.1	2019	●	↑

**SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth**

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.57	2020	●	↗
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	22142	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	23.1	2021	●	↗
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	9.2	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	2.1	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	11.6	2021	●	↓

**SDG8 – (continued)**

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.2	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	50.7	2018	●	●

**SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.5	2020	●	↗
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.5	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	83.0	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	90	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	5	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	46	2021	●	↗
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.9	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	54.6	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	2.3	2021	●	↑

**SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities**

Gini Coefficient	32.9	2021	●	↓
Palma ratio	1.26	2018	●	↗

**SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities**

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	9.3	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	39.2	2021	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	51.4	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	19.6	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	7.2	2021	●	↗
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	15.1	2019	●	↑

**SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production**

Circular material use rate (%)	21.6	2020	●	↑
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	1.9	2019	●	↗
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	7.7	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	4.0	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	8.0	2015	●	↗
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	10.7	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	3.4	2021	●	↗

**SDG13 – Climate Action**

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	5.0	2020	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	1.5	2018	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	33.9	2020	●	●

**SDG14 – Life Below Water**

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	87.9	2021	●	↗
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	52.3	2018	●	↓
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	46.4	2018	●	↓
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	8.4	2018	●	↓
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.3	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	76.0	2021	●	↗

**SDG15 – Life on Land**

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	75.9	2021	●	↗
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	85.2	2021	●	↗
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	1.5	2019	●	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.89	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	3.5	2018	●	●

**SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.4	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	8.4	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	1.1	2020	●	↗
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.60	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.44	2020	●	↗
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.71	2020	●	↑
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	56	2021	●	↑
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	17.4	2019	●	↑
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	1.39	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	68.2	2022	●	↓

**SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals**

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.28	2021	●	↗
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	31.7	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	58	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	89.8	2019	●	↗



## ▼ Overall Performance

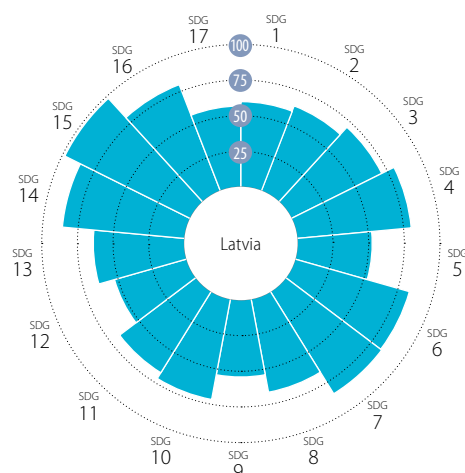
Index score



Index Rank

Latvia  
**24**

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



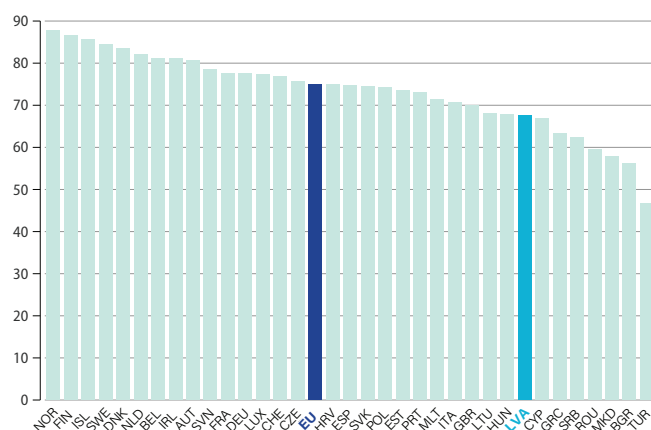
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

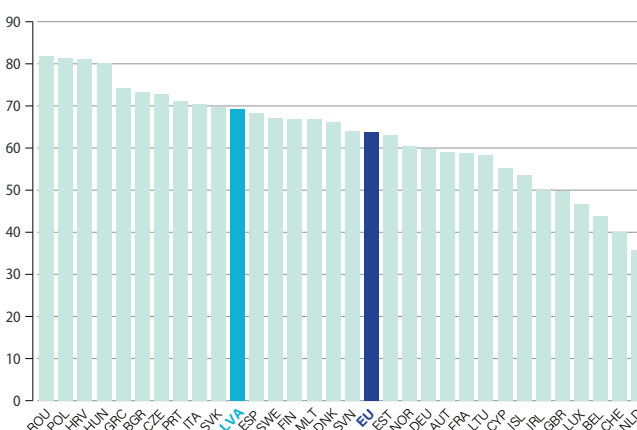
## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	23.4	2021	●	↓
Severely materially deprived people (%)	7.3	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	1.5	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	23.0	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.41	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	43.9	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	12.4	2019	●	↑
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	7.7	2019	●	↑
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	73.4	2021	●	↓
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	NA	NA	●	●
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	49.8	2021	●	→
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	40.1	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	6.8	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	23.0	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	485.1	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	15.0	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	40	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	4.0	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	7.3	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	94	2021	●	↑
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	2.7	2019	●	→
Smoking prevalence (%)	32	2020	●	↓
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2021	●	●
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	32.3	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.4	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	18	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	94.0	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	7.3	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	487.4	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	18.5	2018	●	→
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	8.4	2018	●	↑
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	45.5	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	8.6	2021	●	↑

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	22.3	2020	●	↓
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	4.8	2021	●	→
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	37.4	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	28.0	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	22.2	2021	●	↓
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	22.6	2021	●	↓

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	7.0	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	80.4	2020	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	0.2	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	3666.4	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	96.3	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	83.4	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	4.9	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	42.1	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.1	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.77	2020	●	●
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	15666	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	12.1	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	8.1	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	2.8	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	9.8	2021	●	↓

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.2	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	65.3	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	0.7	2020	●	→
R&D personnel (% of active population)	0.7	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	11.6	2021	●	↓
Households with broadband access (%)	91	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	3	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	51	2021	●	→
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.0	2018	●	↓
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	33.1	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	1.6	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	35.7	2021	●	↓
Palma ratio	1.46	2020	●	↓

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	3.6	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	45.4	2021	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	39.6	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	17.5	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	4.9	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	12.1	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	4.2	2020	●	↓
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2.6	2019	●	↓
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	8.4	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	4.7	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	25.5	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	7.8	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	7.6	2021	●	↓

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	3.6	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	3.0	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	13.2	2021	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	73.2	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	5.3	2018	●	↑
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	0.2	2017	●	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	8.4	2018	●	↑
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.0	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	96.2	2021	●	↑

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	97.2	2021	●	↑
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	97.5	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	1.4	2019	●	→
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	4.7	2019	●	↑
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.99	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.2	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	3.3	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	5.3	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	1.4	2020	●	→
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.63	2020	●	●
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.68	2020	●	●
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.70	2020	●	●
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	59	2021	●	↑
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	27.8	2019	●	↑
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.00	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	79.2	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.12	2021	●	→
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	0.4	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	73	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	83.7	2019	●	→



## Overall Performance

Index score

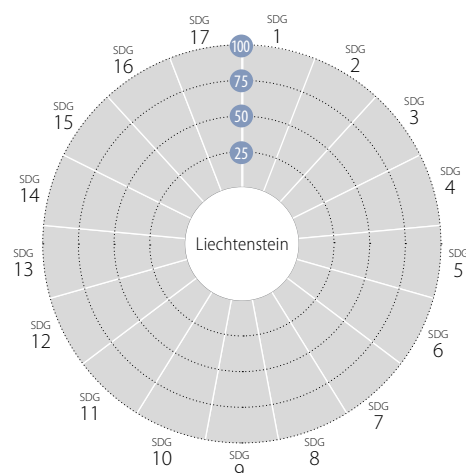


Index Rank

Liechtenstein

NA

## Performance by SDG



## SDG Dashboards and Trends



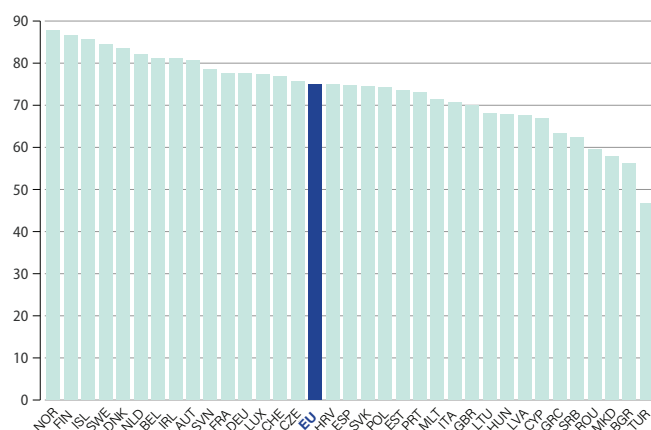
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

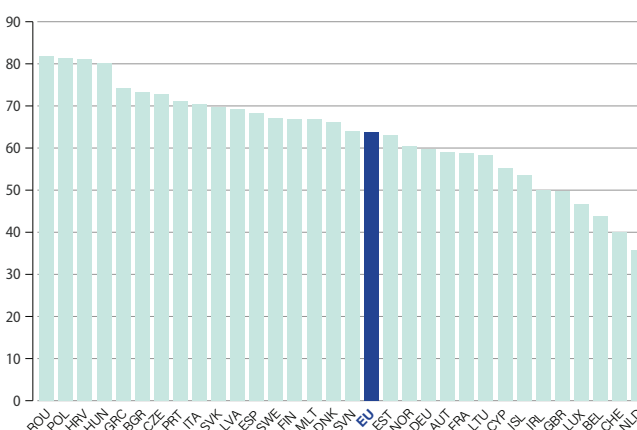
## Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Severely materially deprived people (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	NA	NA	●	●
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	NA	NA	●	●
Yield gap closure (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	84.4	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	NA	NA	●	●
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	NA	NA	●	●
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	158.1	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	25.1	2019	●	↓
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	NA	NA	●	●
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Smoking prevalence (%)	NA	NA	●	●
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	49.0	2020	●	●
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	NA	NA	●	●
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	NA	NA	●	●
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	NA	NA	●	●
Adult participation in learning (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	NA	NA	●	●
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	NA	NA	●	●
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	28.0	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	NA	NA	●	●
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	NA	NA	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	100.0	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	98.8	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	NA	NA	●	●
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	NA	NA	●	●
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	NA	NA	●	●
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	NA	NA	●	●
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	NA	NA	●	●
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	NA	NA	●	●
R&D personnel (% of active population)	NA	NA	●	●
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	12648.8	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	NA	NA	●	●
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	*	0.0	2022	●
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	3.6	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	NA	NA	●	●
Palma ratio	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	NA	NA	●	●
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	NA	NA	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	NA	NA	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	3.8	2015	●	→
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	28.9	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	3.7	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	NA	NA	●	●
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	NA	NA	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	80.8	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	0.0	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.99	2022	●	↑
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.4	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	→
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	39.7	2019	●	↑
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.00	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	84.0	2022	●	↑

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.37	2018	●	●
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	NA	NA	●	●
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	71	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	NA	NA	●	●

\* Imputed data point

## ▼ Overall Performance

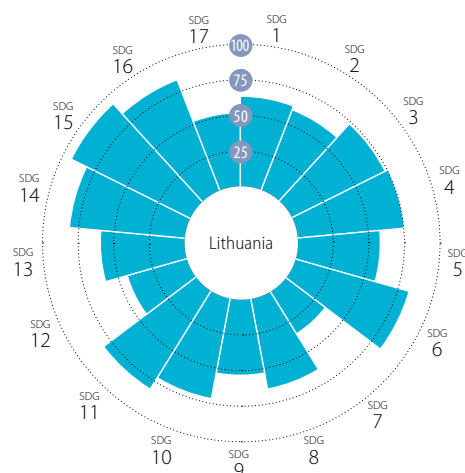
Index score



Index Rank

Lithuania  
**26**

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
→ Stagnating   
↗ Moderately improving   
↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
● Information unavailable

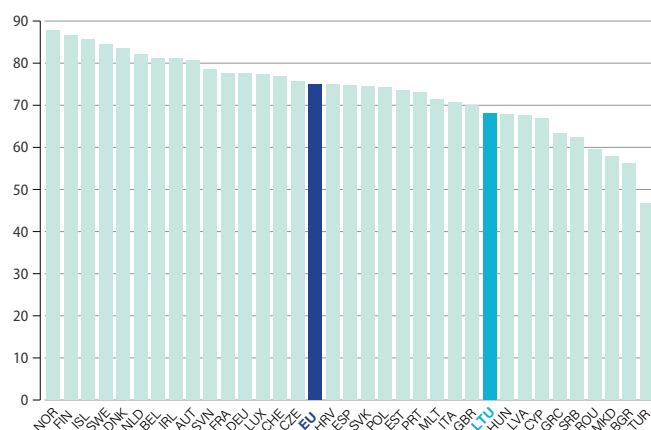
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

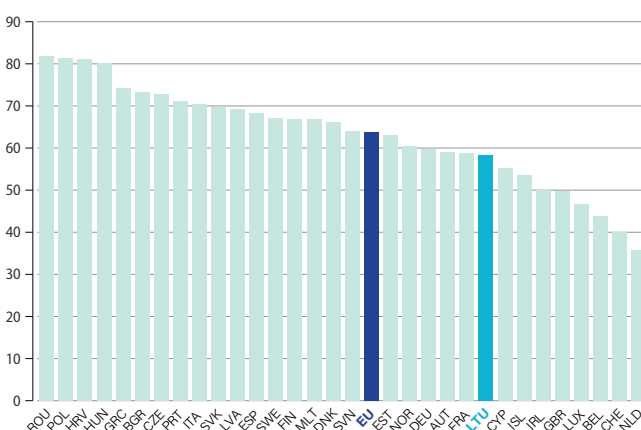
## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	20.0	2021	●	↗
Severely materially deprived people (%)	7.7	2020	●	↗
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	1.7	2022	●	↗

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	18.9	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.49	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	45.6	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	40.8	2019	●	↗
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	10.8	2019	●	↗
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	74.5	2021	●	↓
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	1.0	2020	●	↗
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	47.9	2021	●	↗
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	41.4	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	2.5	2021	●	↗
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	29.0	2020	●	↗
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	466.0	2019	●	↗
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	22.9	2019	●	↗
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	39	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	3.3	2020	●	↗
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	6.2	2020	●	↗
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	88	2021	●	↓
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	2.5	2019	●	↗
Smoking prevalence (%)	28	2020	●	↓
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	98.8	2021	●	↗
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	28.7	2021	●	↗
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.9	2021	●	↗
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	30	2020	●	↗

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	90.9	2020	●	↗
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	5.3	2021	●	↗
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	479.7	2018	●	↗
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	22.2	2018	●	↗
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	12.5	2018	●	↓
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	57.5	2021	●	↗
Adult participation in learning (%)	8.5	2021	●	↗

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	13.0	2020	●	↗
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	1.4	2021	●	↗
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	36.3	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	28.4	2021	●	↗
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	22.3	2021	●	↗
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	23.7	2021	●	↗

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	6.4	2020	●	↗
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	77.0	2020	●	↗
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	0.4	2017	●	↗
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	4422.0	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	94.9	2020	●	↗
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	93.9	2020	●	↗

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	23.1	2020	●	↗
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	26.8	2020	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	4.8	2019	●	↓

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.68	2020	●	●
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	20538	2020	●	↗
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	12.7	2021	●	↓
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	8.5	2020	●	↗
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	3.0	2019	●	↗
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	7.5	2021	●	↗

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.4	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	100.9	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.2	2020	●	↗
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.0	2020	●	↗
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	26.1	2021	●	↗
Households with broadband access (%)	87	2021	●	↗
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	7	2021	●	↗
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	49	2021	●	↓
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	2.7	2018	●	↓
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	29.8	2022	●	↗
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	1.8	2021	●	↗

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	35.4	2021	●	↗
Palma ratio	1.48	2019	●	↗

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	2.5	2018	●	↗
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	26.8	2021	●	↗
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	45.1	2020	●	↗
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	10.9	2020	●	↗
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	2.7	2021	●	↗
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	11.1	2019	●	↗

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	4.4	2020	●	↗
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2.7	2019	●	↗
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	8.5	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	7.4	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	34.7	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	9.6	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	12.1	2021	●	↓

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	5.1	2020	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	8.6	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	41.8	2021	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	89.2	2021	●	↗
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	34.9	2018	●	↓
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	4.4	2018	●	↗
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.1	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	83.5	2021	●	↗

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	91.8	2021	●	↗
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	95.2	2021	●	↗
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	2.3	2019	●	↗
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.99	2022	●	↗
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.8	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	2.2	2019	●	↗
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	3.3	2020	●	↗
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.9	2020	●	↗
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.70	2020	●	●
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.70	2020	●	●
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.75	2020	●	●
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	61	2021	●	↗
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	11.8	2019	●	↗
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	1.15	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	84.1	2022	●	↗

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.13	2021	●	↗
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	NA	NA	●	●
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	57	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	84.9	2019	●	↗

### Overall Performance

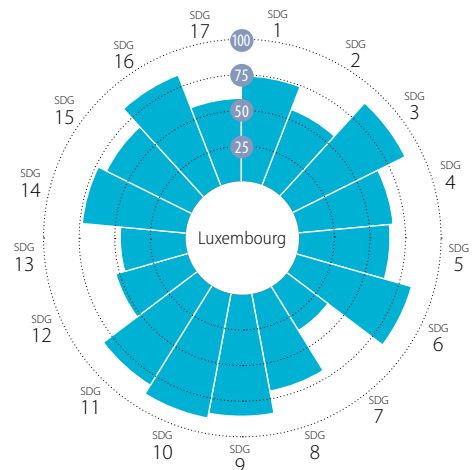
Index score



Index Rank

**Luxembourg**  
**25**

### Performance by SDG



### SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable

↓ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 ↗ Moderately improving
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

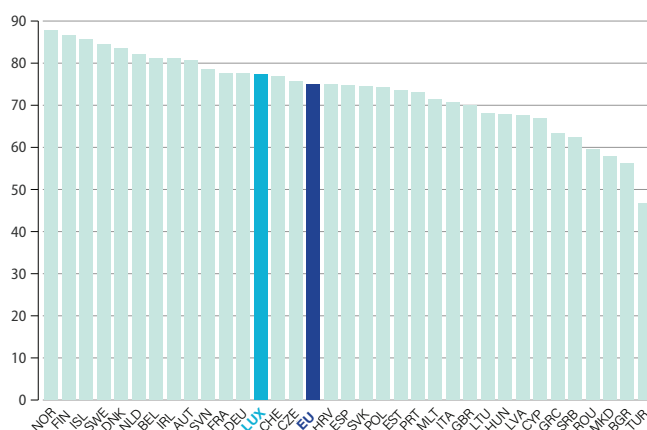
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

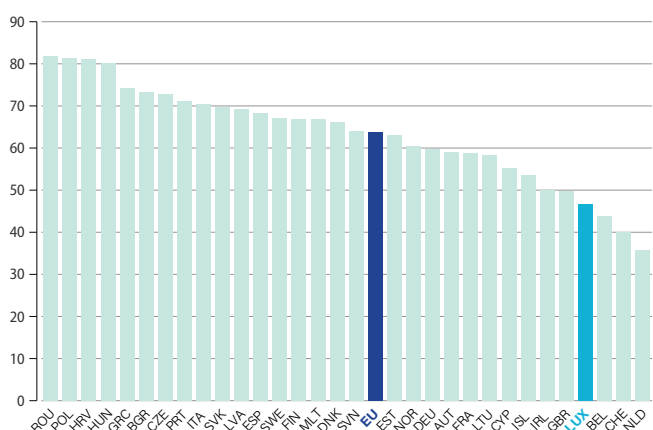
### Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



### Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)





## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	18.1	2021	●	↓
Severely materially deprived people (%)	1.7	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.5	2022	●	→

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	16.5	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.33	2019	●	↗
Yield gap closure (%)	65.0	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	129.0	2015	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	38.4	2019	●	↓
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	82.8	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	NA	NA	●	●
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	76.5	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	6.3	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	0.6	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	5.9	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	177.8	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	11.5	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	12	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2.8	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	4.1	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	99	2021	●	↑
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	10.5	2019	●	→
Smoking prevalence (%)	23	2020	●	→
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2020	●	●
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	8.5	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	7.4	2019	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	24	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	89.5	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	9.3	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	476.7	2018	●	↓
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	26.8	2018	●	↓
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	20.9	2018	●	↓
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	62.6	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	17.9	2021	●	→

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	0.7	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	7.4	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	29.7	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	35.0	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	22.4	2021	●	↗
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	19.7	2021	●	↗

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	98.3	2020	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	2.9	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m³/capita)	9563.0	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	99.5	2020	●	→
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	96.8	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	3.6	2020	●	→
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	11.7	2020	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	13.2	2019	●	↓

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.79	2020	●	●
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	34710	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	8.8	2021	●	→
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	6.8	2020	●	→
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	3.1	2019	●	↗
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	11.9	2020	●	↓

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.4	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	124.6	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.1	2020	●	↓
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.8	2020	●	→
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	677.5	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	99	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	0	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	64	2021	●	→
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.6	2018	●	→
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	49.2	2022	●	→
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	4.1	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	31.2	2020	●	↓
Palma ratio	1.11	2019	●	→

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	0.2	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	20.3	2020	●	→
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	52.8	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	15.4	2020	●	↓
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	5.1	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m³)	10.2	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	13.6	2020	●	↗
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2.8	2019	●	↑
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	17.4	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	7.7	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	7.9	2015	●	→
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	55.5	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	18.1	2021	●	↗

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	13.1	2020	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	3.9	2018	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	0.0	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	82.4	2021	●	→
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.7	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	84.2	2021	●	↑
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	37.1	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	1.9	2012	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.99	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	7.9	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.7	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	11.0	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	2.0	2020	●	→
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.72	2020	●	●
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.83	2020	●	●
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.82	2020	●	●
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	81	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	49.8	2019	●	↓
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.00	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	79.8	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.99	2021	●	↑
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	-56.7	2018	●	↓
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	74	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	78.2	2019	●	↑

## ▼ Overall Performance

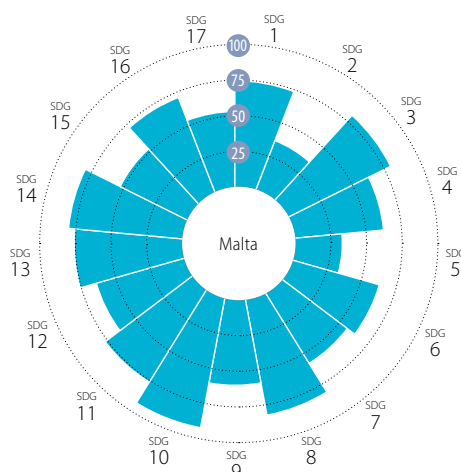
Index score



Index Rank

**Malta**  
**28**

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↑ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

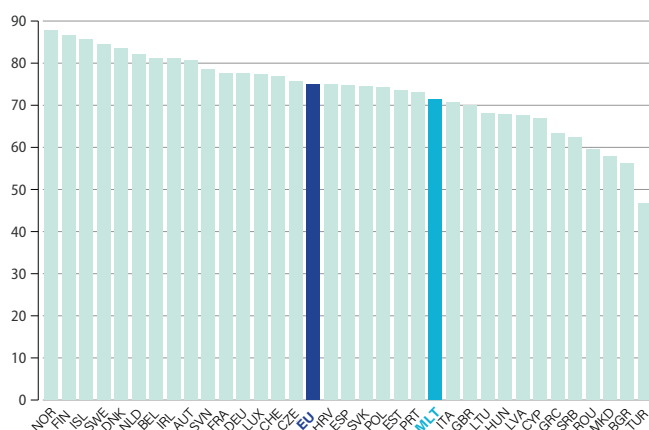
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

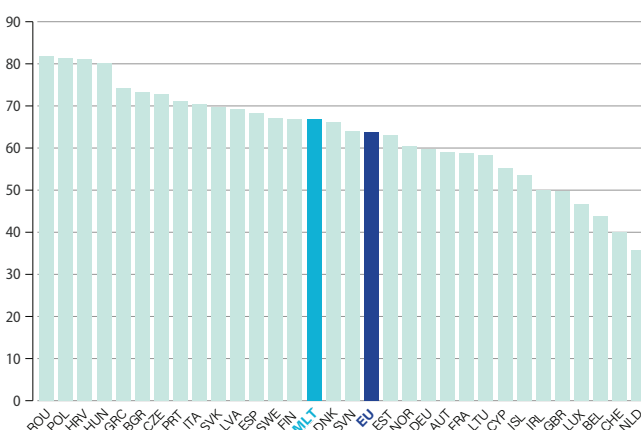
## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)





## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	16.9	2021	●	↓
Severely materially deprived people (%)	3.3	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.2	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	28.7	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.30	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	147.0	2015	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	105.3	2019	●	→
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	82.9	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	NA	NA	●	●
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	73.0	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	30.6	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	0.5	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	36.0	2020	●	↓
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	186.9	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	4.0	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	21	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	6.5	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	2.3	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	90	2021	●	↑
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	5.0	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	20	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	35.3	2019	●	→
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.4	2021	●	→
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	13	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	89.1	2020	●	→
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	11.0	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	458.9	2018	●	↓
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	33.5	2018	●	↓
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	14.5	2015	●	●
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	42.4	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	13.8	2021	●	↑

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	10.0	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	16.8	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	65.9	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	13.4	2021	●	→
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	10.8	2021	●	→
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	25.6	2021	●	↑

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	6.5	2020	●	→
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	18.5	2017	●	→
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	8655.6	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	100.0	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	91.9	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	7.2	2020	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	10.7	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.2	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.78	2020	●	●
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	NA	NA	●	●
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	9.9	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	4.4	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	1.2	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	7.4	2020	●	→

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.2	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	61.5	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	0.7	2020	●	↓
R&D personnel (% of active population)	0.7	2020	●	↓
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	98.8	2021	●	→
Households with broadband access (%)	91	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	0	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	61	2021	●	↑
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	2.9	2018	●	↓
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	29.6	2022	●	●
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	2.1	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	30.3	2020	●	↓
Palma ratio	1.06	2018	●	●

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	17.1	2018	●	↓
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	8.5	2020	●	→
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	10.5	2020	●	↓
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	6.1	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	2.7	2021	●	→
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	7.9	2020	●	→
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	1.1	2019	●	↓
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	17.9	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	4.7	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	1.7	2015	●	↑
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	14.8	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	5.5	2021	●	↑

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	3.6	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	2.1	2018	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	96.6	2021	●	→
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	18.9	2018	●	↓
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	89.6	2018	●	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	1.6	2018	●	↑
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.1	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	98.9	2021	●	↑

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	90.9	2021	●	↑
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	0.0	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	59.4	2019	●	→
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.87	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	1.1	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.5	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	11.4	2020	●	→
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	1.3	2020	●	→
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.66	2020	●	●
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.43	2020	●	●
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.65	2020	●	●
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	54	2021	●	↓
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	32.5	2019	●	↓
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.00	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	61.6	2022	●	↓

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.34	2021	●	→
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	-12.4	2018	●	→
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	79	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	74.6	2019	●	→

## Overall Performance

Index score

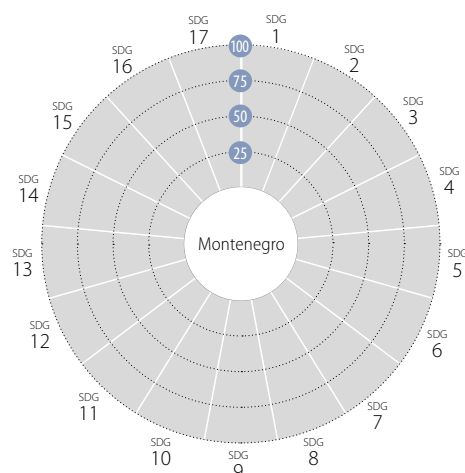


Index Rank

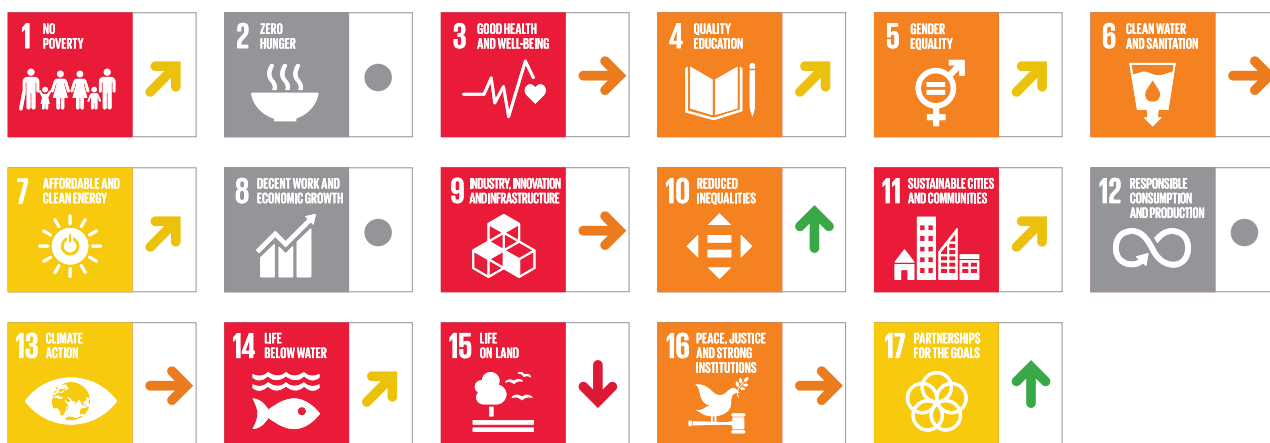
Montenegro

NA

## Performance by SDG



## SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable

↓ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 ↗ Moderately improving
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

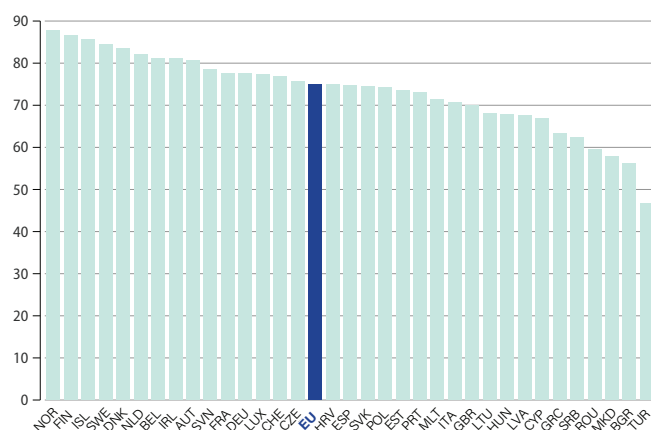
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

## Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	22.6	2020	●	↗
Severely materially deprived people (%)	13.5	2020	●	→
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	11.1	2022	●	↗

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	* 23.3	2016	●	●
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.48	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	75.9	2020	●	↓
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	NA	NA	●	●
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	70.3	2020	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	8.3	2020	●	→
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	1.6	2020	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	16.0	2020	●	→
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	NA	NA	●	●
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	115	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2.4	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	18	2021	●	↓
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Smoking prevalence (%)	NA	NA	●	●
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	38.6	2019	●	↓
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	5.7	2020	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	NA	NA	●	●
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	3.6	2020	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	421.9	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	48.2	2018	●	→
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	5.0	2015	●	●
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	40.4	2020	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	2.7	2020	●	↓

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	7.7	2014	●	●
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	12.9	2020	●	↓
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	29.4	2020	●	↑
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	27.2	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	20.3	2021	●	→
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	27.6	2018	●	●

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.9	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	NA	NA	●	●
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	NA	NA	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	85.1	2020	●	→
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	45.4	2020	●	→

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	13.2	2020	●	↓
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	43.8	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	0.7	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	NA	NA	●	●
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	26.6	2020	●	↓
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	17.9	2020	●	↓
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	NA	NA	●	●
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	9.8	2020	●	↓

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	0.5	2018	●	●
R&D personnel (% of active population)	0.2	2019	●	↓
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	1.6	2021	●	→
Households with broadband access (%)	81	2021	●	●
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	47	2021	●	●
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	2.6	2018	●	↓
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	16.5	2022	●	●
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	0.9	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	32.9	2020	●	↑
Palma ratio	1.74	2018	●	●

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	6.9	2018	●	●
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	77.3	2020	●	↓
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	4.6	2020	●	●
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	22.4	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	9.4	2020	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	NA	NA	●	●
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	NA	NA	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	NA	NA	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	5.5	2015	●	→
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	19.5	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	0.8	2021	●	↑

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	3.7	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	NA	NA	●	●
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	190.2	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	28.6	2018	●	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	10.7	2018	●	→
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	1.1	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	17.8	2021	●	→

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	25.9	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	49.2	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.80	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	5.3	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	3.7	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	5.4	2020	●	↓
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	46	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	33.7	2019	●	↓
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.00	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	66.5	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	NA	NA	●	●
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	NA	NA	●	●
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	*	0	2021	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	67.0	2019	●	↑

\* Imputed data point

### Overall Performance

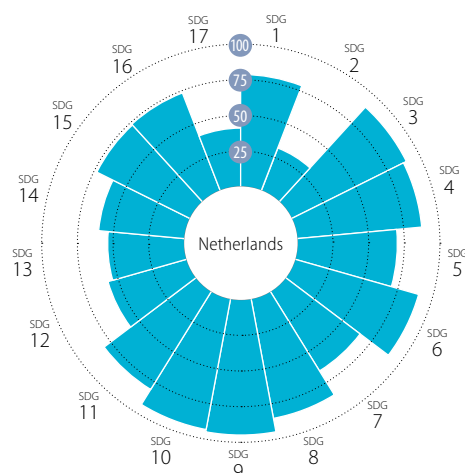


Index Rank

**Netherlands**

**16**

### Performance by SDG



### SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable

↓ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 ↗ Moderately improving
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

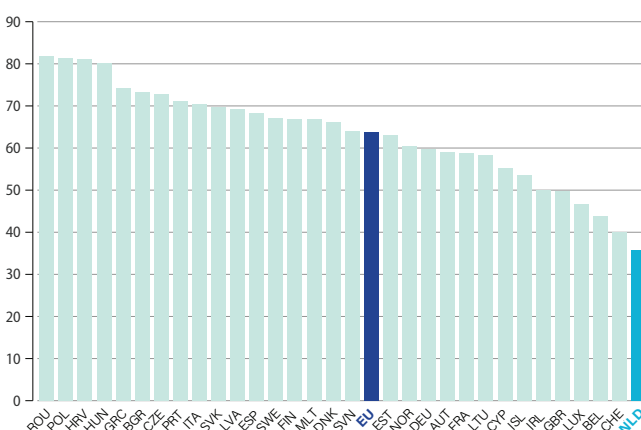
### Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



### Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	14.4	2021	●	→
Severely materially deprived people (%)	2.1	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.3	2022	●	→

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	14.7	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.53	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	76.2	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	165.8	2019	●	↓
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	58.9	2019	●	→
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	468.5	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	81.5	2021	●	→
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	1.5	2020	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	73.2	2021	●	→
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	26.5	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	0.5	2021	●	→
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	4.1	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	184.8	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	10.5	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	13	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	4.2	2020	●	→
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	3.0	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	93	2021	●	→
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	5.9	2019	●	●
Smoking prevalence (%)	12	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	99.9	2020	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	9.3	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	7.3	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	34	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	91.7	2020	●	→
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	5.3	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	502.5	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	20.0	2018	●	→
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	12.9	2018	●	↓
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	55.6	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	26.6	2021	●	↑

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	14.2	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	8.2	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	9.9	2021	●	→
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	37.8	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	38.1	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	17.5	2021	●	↑

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	99.5	2020	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	4.2	2017	●	→
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	6241.6	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	100.0	2020	●	→
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	97.5	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	2.4	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	14.0	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.3	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.83	2020	●	↑
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	28700	2021	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	5.5	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	3.8	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	0.5	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	5.2	2021	●	→

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.4	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	121.2	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	2.3	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.7	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	376.6	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	99	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	1	2021	●	→
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	79	2021	●	↑
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	4.2	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	68.9	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	3.9	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	26.4	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	1.15	2020	●	↓

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	1.8	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	11.5	2021	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	56.9	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	14.8	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	12.5	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	10.4	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	30.9	2020	●	↑
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2.4	2020	●	↑
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	15.0	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	8.8	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	12.7	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	19.5	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	24.5	2021	●	→

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	8.1	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	3.3	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	68.9	2021	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	73.8	2021	●	→
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	53.1	2018	●	↓
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	31.4	2018	●	→
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	19.1	2018	●	↓
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.3	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	96.6	2021	●	↑

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	79.6	2021	●	↑
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	87.3	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.94	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	6.0	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.6	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	15.7	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	7.4	2020	●	↓
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.79	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.87	2020	●	↑
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.85	2020	●	→
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	82	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	26.6	2019	●	→
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	2.96	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	77.9	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.52	2021	●	↓
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	-105.9	2018	●	↓
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	80	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	88.0	2019	●	→



## Overall Performance

Index score

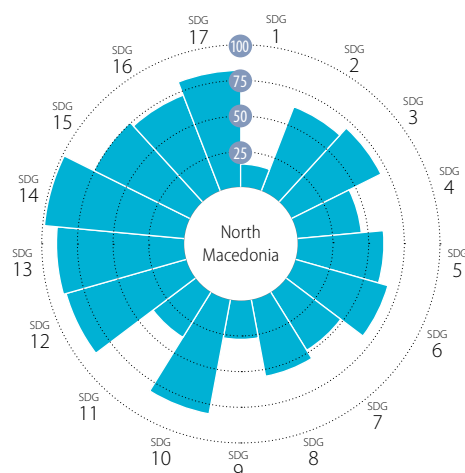


Index Rank

North Macedonia

30

## Performance by SDG



## SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges ■ Significant challenges ■ Challenges remain ■ SDG achieved ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing → Stagnating ↗ Moderately improving ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement ● Information unavailable

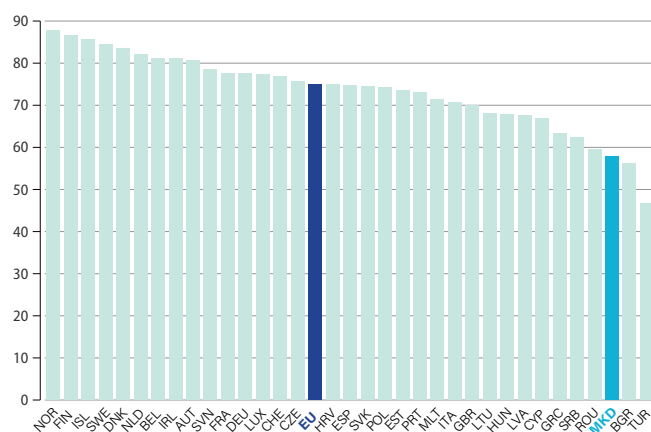
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

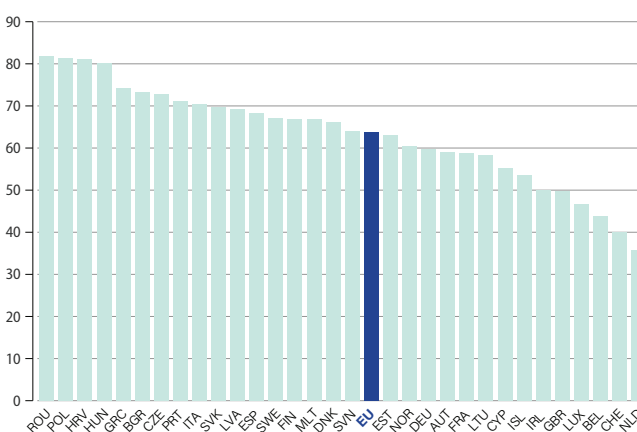
## Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	21.8	2020	●	↓
Severely materially deprived people (%)	28.6	2020	●	→
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	15.9	2022	●	↗

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	10.5	2017	●	●
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.26	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	74.4	2020	●	↓
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	NA	NA	●	●
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	76.6	2020	●	→
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	6.1	2020	●	↑
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	3.0	2020	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	12.0	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	NA	NA	●	●
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	96	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	5.9	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	70	2021	●	↓
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Smoking prevalence (%)	NA	NA	●	●
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	40.4	2019	●	↓
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	5.5	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	5	2020	●	→

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	30.0	2020	●	↓
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	5.7	2020	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	400.1	2018	●	↑
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	49.5	2018	●	↑
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	6.9	2015	●	●
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	37.7	2020	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	2.6	2020	●	→

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	9.1	2014	●	●
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	19.9	2020	●	↓
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	24.4	2020	●	↑
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	40.2	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	21.0	2021	●	↓
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	23.3	2020	●	↗

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	1.6	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	11.3	2017	●	→
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	2349.8	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	76.8	2020	●	↓
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	12.2	2020	●	↓

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	23.8	2020	●	↓
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	19.2	2020	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.4	2019	●	→

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.57	2020	●	↑
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	NA	NA	●	●
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	26.2	2020	●	↗
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	16.4	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	NA	NA	●	●
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	7.9	2020	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.1	2018	●	→
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	25.3	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	0.4	2020	●	↓	
R&D personnel (% of active population)	0.2	2020	●	→	
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	2.4	2021	●	→	
Households with broadband access (%)	84	2021	●	↑	
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	5	2021	●	●	
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	35	2021	●	↓	
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	2.5	2018	●	↓	
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	*	0.0	2022	●	●
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	0.5	2021	●	↗	

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	31.4	2020	●	↑
Palma ratio	1.33	2018	●	●

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	32.6	2018	●	●
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	54.7	2020	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	0.0	2011	●	●
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	13.0	2020	●	→
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	8.5	2020	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	NA	NA	●	●
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	27.1	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	1.8	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	8.1	2015	●	→
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	3.2	2015	●	→
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	2.5	2021	●	↗

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	3.4	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	0.5	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	1.0	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.0	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	24.4	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	93.6	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	3.3	2019	●	↓
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.97	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.7	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	2.4	2010	●	●
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	5.5	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.59	2020	●	↗
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.48	2020	●	→
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.47	2020	●	→
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	39	2021	●	↓
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	8.4	2018	●	↑
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.00	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	68.4	2022	●	↗

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	NA	NA	●	●	
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	NA	NA	●	●	
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	*	0	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	72.0	2019	●	↑	

\* Imputed data point



## Overall Performance

Index score



Index Rank

Norway

5

## Performance by SDG



## SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges ■ Significant challenges ■ Challenges remain ■ SDG achieved ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing → Stagnating ↗ Moderately improving ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement ● Information unavailable

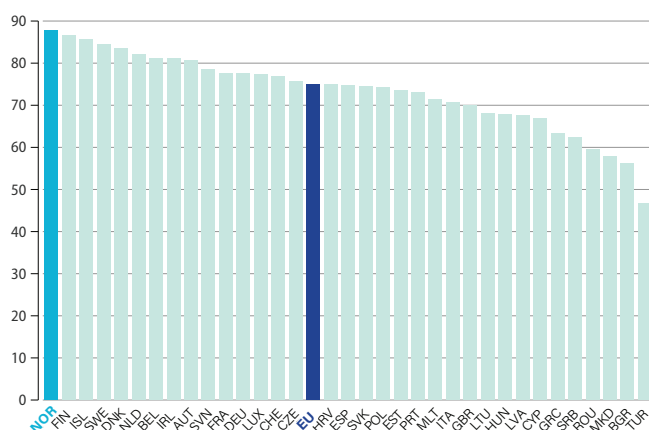
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

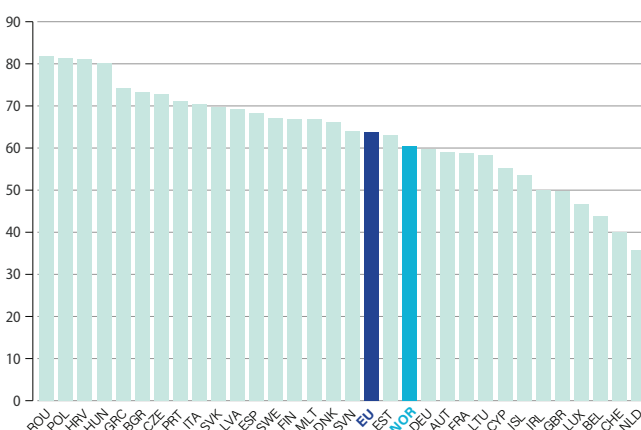
## Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	12.7	2020	●	→
Severely materially deprived people (%)	2.0	2020	●	→
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.4	2022	●	→

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	14.1	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.52	2019	●	→
Yield gap closure (%)	57.0	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	94.5	2016	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	26.6	2019	●	↑
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	83.2	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	1.3	2020	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	74.7	2020	●	→
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	18.0	2020	●	→
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	0.7	2020	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	3.1	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	172.2	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	12.4	2019	●	↓
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	8	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2.2	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	1.7	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	97	2021	●	↑
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	11.0	2019	●	↓
Smoking prevalence (%)	NA	NA	●	●
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2021	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	13.7	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	7.4	2021	●	→
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	33	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	97.0	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	12.3	2021	●	↓
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	496.9	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	20.8	2018	●	↓
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	8.9	2018	●	→
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	55.1	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	19.6	2021	●	→

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	13.4	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	4.8	2021	●	→
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	7.9	2021	●	→
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	45.0	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	41.5	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	19.1	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	67.9	2020	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	0.2	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	4197.5	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	98.6	2020	●	→
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	65.4	2020	●	→

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	0.8	2020	●	→
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	77.4	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	0.3	2019	●	→

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.88	2020	●	→
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	30073	2021	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	7.4	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	4.4	2020	●	→
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	1.1	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	5.9	2020	●	→

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.5	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	177.5	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	2.3	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.8	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	118.7	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	99	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	0	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	79	2021	●	→
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.7	2018	●	→
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	52.4	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	5.1	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	25.3	2020	●	↑
Palma ratio	0.91	2020	●	↑

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	4.8	2018	●	→
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	24.1	2020	●	→
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	44.9	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	6.3	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	9.4	2021	●	→
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	6.5	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	NA	NA	●	●
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	19.7	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	11.5	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	13.7	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	17.2	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	12.2	2021	●	↓

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	7.6	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	6.0	2018	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	83152.7	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	18.3	2018	●	↑
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	33.6	2018	●	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	0.3	2018	●	↑
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.4	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	55.1	2021	●	→

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	56.5	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	64.3	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.95	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	3.8	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.5	2019	●	→
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	4.1	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	2.2	2020	●	↓
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.72	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.80	2020	●	→
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.94	2020	●	↑
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	85	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	23.7	2018	●	↑
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	1.34	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	92.7	2022	●	↑

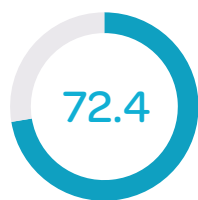
## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.93	2021	●	→	
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	7.2	2018	●	↑	
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	*	0	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	90.1	2019	●	→	

\* Imputed data point

## ▼ Overall Performance

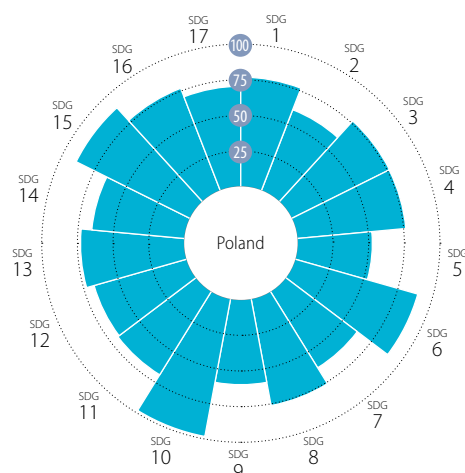
Index score



Index Rank

Poland  
**13**

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
→ Stagnating   
↗ Moderately improving   
↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
● Information unavailable

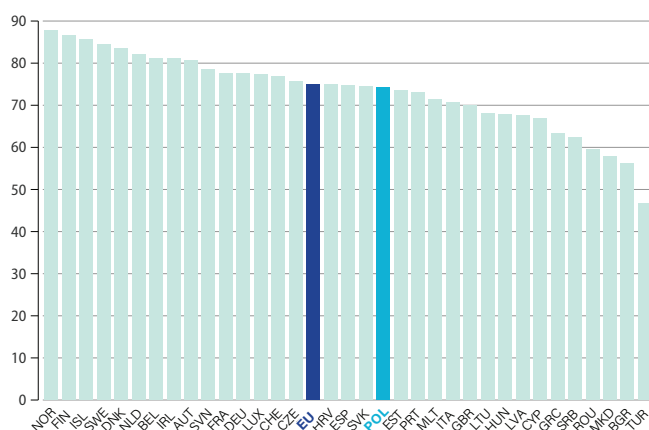
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

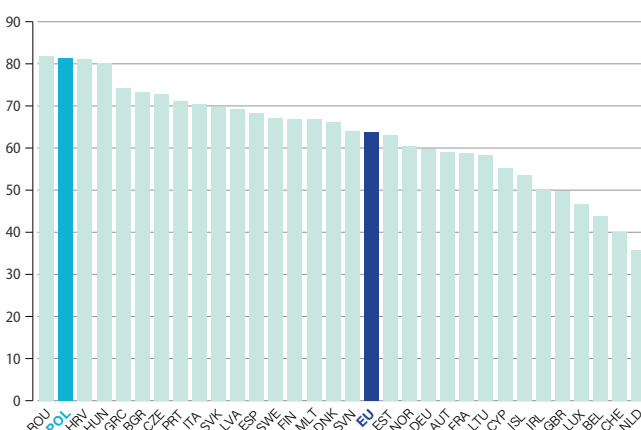
## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	14.8	2021	●	↑
Severely materially deprived people (%)	2.6	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.7	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	19.0	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.36	2019	●	→
Yield gap closure (%)	44.0	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	47.4	2019	●	↑
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	20.6	2019	●	↓
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	75.6	2021	●	↓
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	2.7	2020	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	64.4	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	25.3	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	1.9	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	9.6	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	352.2	2019	●	→
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	12.0	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	41	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	4.4	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	6.6	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	80	2021	●	↓
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	1.1	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	26	2020	●	↓
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	94.0	2021	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	19.6	2021	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.0	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	11	2020	●	→

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	90.8	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	5.9	2021	●	→
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	512.8	2018	●	↑
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	13.8	2018	●	↑
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	12.6	2018	●	↑
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	40.6	2021	●	→
Adult participation in learning (%)	5.4	2021	●	→

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	4.5	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	14.0	2021	●	↓
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	44.2	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	27.5	2021	●	→
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	24.7	2021	●	→
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	15.5	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	1.3	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	74.8	2020	●	→
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	6.9	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	1347.9	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	98.3	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	90.5	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	3.2	2020	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	16.1	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.9	2019	●	→

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.66	2020	●	↓
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	17430	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	13.4	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	3.2	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	1.1	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	8.9	2021	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.1	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	42.6	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.4	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.1	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	14.2	2021	●	↓
Households with broadband access (%)	92	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	2	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	43	2021	●	→
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.2	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	33.1	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	1.5	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	26.8	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	0.99	2018	●	↑

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	5.4	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	42.5	2021	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	38.7	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	6.0	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	5.7	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	19.3	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	9.9	2020	●	↓
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2.6	2019	●	↑
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	14.2	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	4.7	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	16.2	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	3.8	2015	●	→
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	4.2	2021	●	→

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	7.9	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	1.4	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	324.6	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	44.5	2021	●	↓
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	51.0	2018	●	↓
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	38.8	2018	●	↓
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	4.8	2018	●	→
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.0	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	87.3	2021	●	→

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	88.5	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	91.7	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	2.8	2019	●	→
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.97	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	1.0	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.7	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	4.4	2019	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.0	2019	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.66	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.49	2020	●	↓
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.54	2020	●	↓
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	56	2021	●	↓
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	11.5	2019	●	→
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.02	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	65.6	2022	●	↓

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.15	2021	●	→
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	5.9	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	46	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	89.1	2019	●	→

## Overall Performance

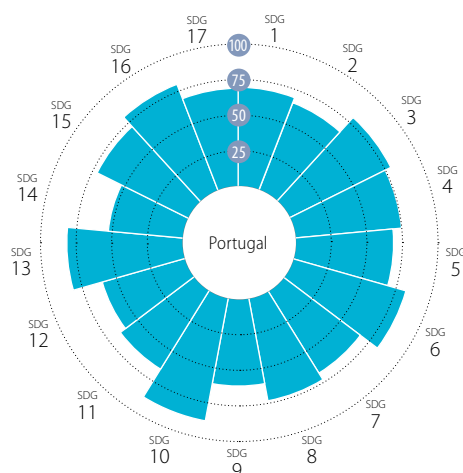
Index score



Index Rank

Portugal  
**18**

## Performance by SDG



## SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable

↓ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 ↗ Moderately improving
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

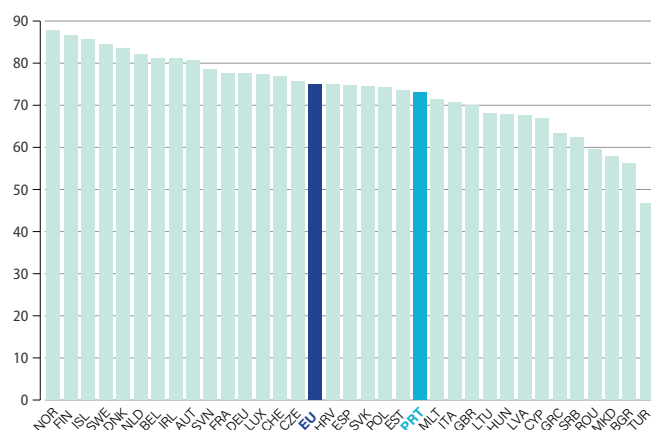
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

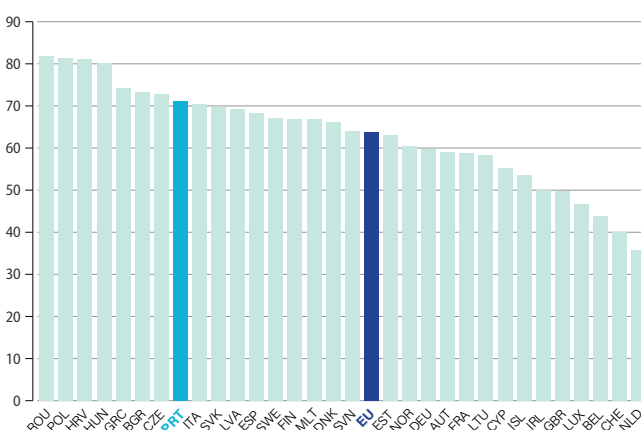
## Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)





## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	18.4	2021	●	↗
Severely materially deprived people (%)	4.6	2020	●	↗
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	1.1	2022	●	↗

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	17.7	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.47	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	45.2	2019	●	↗
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	12.0	2019	●	↗
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	81.2	2021	●	↗
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	3.6	2020	●	↗
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	50.2	2021	●	↗
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	26.0	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	4.2	2021	●	↗
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	16.0	2020	●	↗
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	214.5	2019	●	↗
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	8.8	2019	●	↗
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	10	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	3.3	2020	●	↗
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	5.2	2020	●	↗
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	98	2021	●	↗
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	4.0	2019	●	↗
Smoking prevalence (%)	21	2020	●	↗
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2020	●	↗
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	28.6	2021	●	↗
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.2	2021	●	↗
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	17	2020	●	↗

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	92.9	2020	●	↗
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	5.9	2021	●	↗
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	492.0	2018	●	↓
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	19.6	2018	●	↗
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	15.9	2018	●	↓
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	47.5	2021	●	↗
Adult participation in learning (%)	12.9	2021	●	↗

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	11.4	2020	●	↗
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	5.9	2021	●	↗
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	20.5	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	40.9	2021	●	↗
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	31.0	2021	●	↗
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	20.7	2021	●	↗

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.4	2020	●	↗
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	84.6	2017	●	●
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	12.7	2017	●	↗
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m³/capita)	5551.8	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	95.4	2020	●	↗
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	85.1	2020	●	↗

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	17.5	2020	●	↗
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	34.0	2020	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	0.9	2019	●	↗

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.69	2020	●	↗
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	19321	2021	●	↗
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	9.5	2021	●	↗
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	6.9	2020	●	↗
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	2.1	2019	●	↗
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	9.5	2020	●	↗

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.2	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	49.8	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.6	2020	●	↗
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.4	2020	●	↗
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	27.8	2021	●	↗
Households with broadband access (%)	87	2021	●	↗
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	14	2021	●	↗
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	55	2021	●	↗
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.2	2018	●	↗
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	43.3	2022	●	↗
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	3.2	2021	●	↗

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	31.2	2020	●	↗
Palma ratio	1.16	2019	●	↗

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	13.6	2018	●	↗
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	14.3	2020	●	↗
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	26.5	2020	●	↓
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	25.2	2020	●	↗
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	5.9	2021	●	↗
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m³)	9.1	2019	●	↗

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	2.2	2020	●	↗
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2.3	2019	●	↗
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	8.3	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	3.2	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	7.6	2015	●	↗
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	13.1	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	5.3	2021	●	↗

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	4.0	2020	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	1.3	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	0.0	2021	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	88.5	2021	●	↗
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	68.9	2018	●	↓
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	35.4	2018	●	↓
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	28.1	2018	●	↓
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.6	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	69.3	2021	●	↗

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	76.1	2021	●	↗
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	68.6	2021	●	↗
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	18.0	2019	●	↗
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.86	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	4.0	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

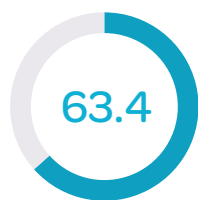
Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.9	2019	●	↗
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	6.6	2020	●	↗
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	4.1	2020	●	↓
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.71	2020	●	↗
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.43	2020	●	↓
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.78	2020	●	↗
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	62	2021	●	↗
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	17.5	2019	●	↗
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.23	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	87.1	2022	●	↗

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.18	2021	●	↗
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	3.8	2018	●	↗
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	49	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	85.5	2019	●	↗

## Overall Performance

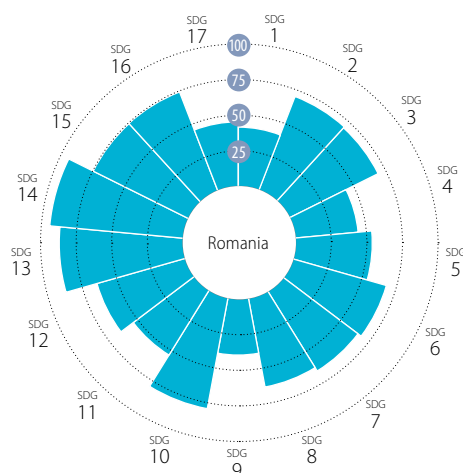
Index score



Index Rank

**Romania**  
**29**

## Performance by SDG



## SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable

↓ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 ↗ Moderately improving
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

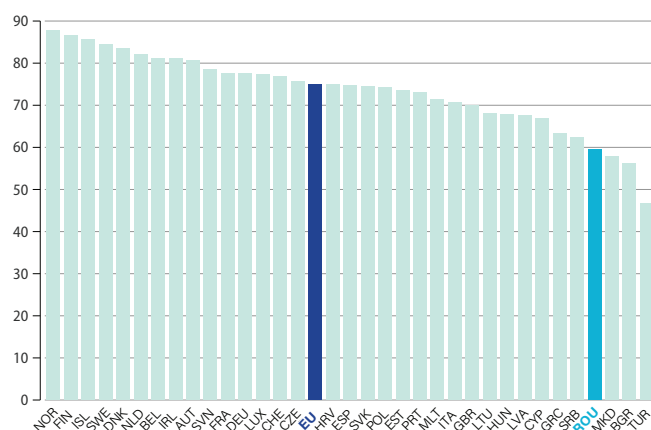
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

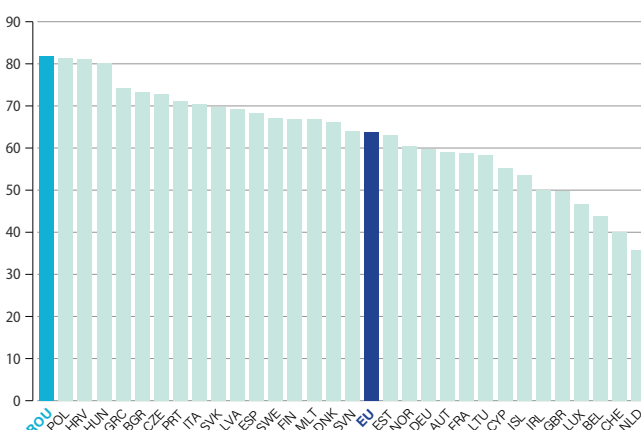
## Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)





## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	22.6	2021	●	↗
Severely materially deprived people (%)	15.2	2020	●	↗
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	8.3	2022	●	↗

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	10.9	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.34	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	40.3	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	-24.9	2019	●	↑
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	11.5	2019	●	↑
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	72.9	2021	●	↓
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	2.2	2020	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	72.8	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	20.2	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	9.3	2021	●	↓
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	64.0	2020	●	↗
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	504.1	2019	●	↗
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	9.0	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	68	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	6.9	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	8.5	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	86	2021	●	↗
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	11.1	2019	●	↓
Smoking prevalence (%)	30	2020	●	↓
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	19.0	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.5	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	5	2020	●	↗

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	78.2	2020	●	↓
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	15.3	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	427.8	2018	●	↓
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	43.9	2018	●	↓
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	13.8	2015	●	●
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	23.3	2021	●	↓
Adult participation in learning (%)	4.9	2021	●	↗

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	2.4	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	20.1	2021	●	↓
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	23.4	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	20.0	2021	●	↗
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	17.5	2021	●	↗
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	26.0	2021	●	↓

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	21.2	2020	●	↗
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	51.8	2020	●	↗
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	4.4	2017	●	↗
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	1948.6	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	82.0	2020	●	↗
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	83.1	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	10.1	2021	●	↗
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	24.5	2020	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.2	2019	●	↗

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.73	2020	●	↗
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	NA	NA	●	●
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	20.3	2021	●	↗
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	5.0	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	3.0	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	15.6	2021	●	↗

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.1	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	30.6	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	0.5	2020	●	↓
R&D personnel (% of active population)	0.4	2020	●	↗
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	1.6	2021	●	↗
Households with broadband access (%)	89	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	10	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	28	2021	●	↗
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	2.9	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	31.3	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	0.9	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	34.3	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	1.30	2019	●	↗

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	19.0	2018	●	↗
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	48.9	2021	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	13.7	2020	●	↗
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	10.0	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	7.5	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	16.4	2019	●	↗

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	1.3	2020	●	↓
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2.8	2019	●	↓
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	17.0	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	2.8	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	20.2	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	2.9	2015	●	↗
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	1.7	2021	●	↗

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	3.7	2020	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	0.8	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	10.0	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	84.0	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	2.3	2012	●	●
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	0.1	2018	●	↗
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.0	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	88.6	2021	●	↗

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	76.0	2021	●	↗
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	60.8	2021	●	↗
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	3.6	2019	●	↗
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.87	2022	●	↗
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.5	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	1.4	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	8.8	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	1.2	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.58	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.54	2020	●	↗
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.61	2020	●	↓
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	45	2021	●	↓
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	7.7	2019	●	↗
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.00	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	68.5	2022	●	↓

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.12	2021	●	↗
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	NA	NA	●	●
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	62	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	77.5	2019	●	●

## Overall Performance

Index score

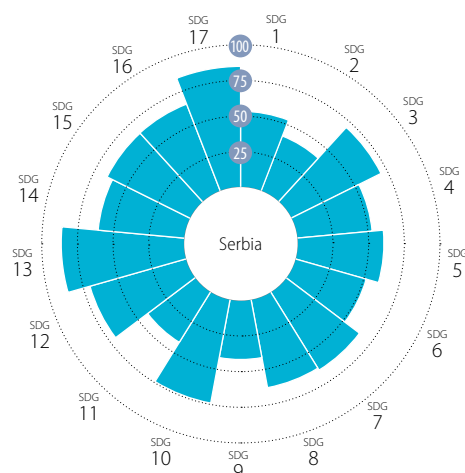


Index Rank

Serbia

31

## Performance by SDG



## SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↗ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

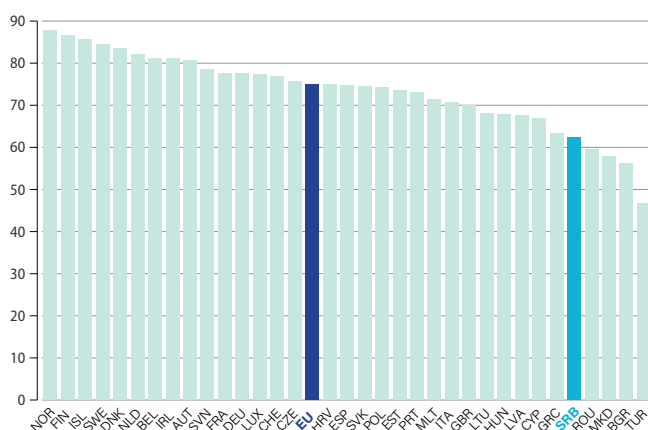
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

## Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	21.7	2020	●	↑
Severely materially deprived people (%)	13.5	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	3.0	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	17.3	2019	●	●
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.36	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	74.5	2020	●	↓
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	1.9	2020	●	●
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	63.6	2020	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	20.8	2020	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	8.2	2020	●	↓
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	13.0	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	399.8	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	13.3	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	71	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	5.6	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	78	2021	●	↓
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	1.7	2019	●	●
Smoking prevalence (%)	NA	NA	●	●
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	37.0	2019	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.2	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	6	2020	●	●

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	69.1	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	6.3	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	442.5	2018	●	●
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	38.3	2018	●	●
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	33.9	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	4.8	2021	●	↑

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	9.6	2018	●	●
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	14.9	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	32.5	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	39.6	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	23.4	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	23.5	2021	●	↑

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	1.6	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	13.8	2020	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	NA	NA	●	●
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	1693.5	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	75.0	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	18.4	2020	●	↓

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	9.5	2020	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	26.0	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.7	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.64	2020	●	↑
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	10443	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	18.8	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	9.1	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	NA	NA	●	●
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	7.8	2020	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.1	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	29.3	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	0.9	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	0.7	2020	●	↓
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	3.2	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	82	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	41	2021	●	↑
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	2.6	2018	●	↓
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	29.5	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	1.2	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	33.3	2020	●	↑
Palma ratio	1.48	2018	●	●

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	19.2	2018	●	●
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	59.9	2020	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	15.4	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	11.4	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	17.8	2020	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	0.9	2019	●	↑
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	4.0	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	1.9	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	14.3	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	6.6	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	1.1	2021	●	↑

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	4.9	2020	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	0.6	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	10.6	2021	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.8	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	28.8	2021	●	↑
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	24.8	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	2.2	2019	●	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	7.6	2019	●	↑
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.95	2022	●	↑
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	3.8	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	1.2	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	9.5	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.60	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.40	2020	●	↑
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.38	2020	●	↓
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	38	2021	●	↓
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	17.2	2019	●	↑
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.22	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	61.5	2022	●	↓

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	NA	NA	●	●
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	NA	NA	●	●
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	*	0	2021	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	75.8	2019	●	↑

\* Imputed data point

### Overall Performance

Index score

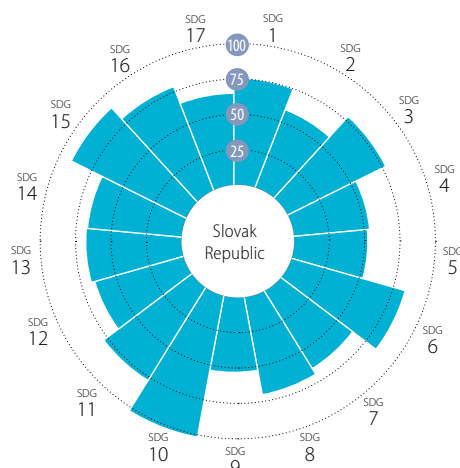


Index Rank

Slovak Republic

21

### Performance by SDG



### SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable

↓ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 ↗ Moderately improving
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

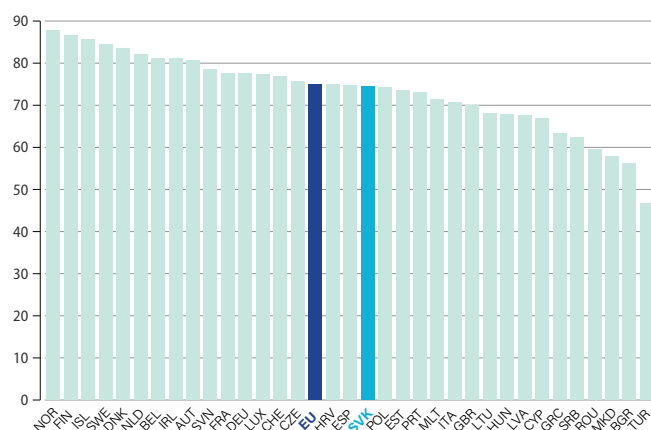
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

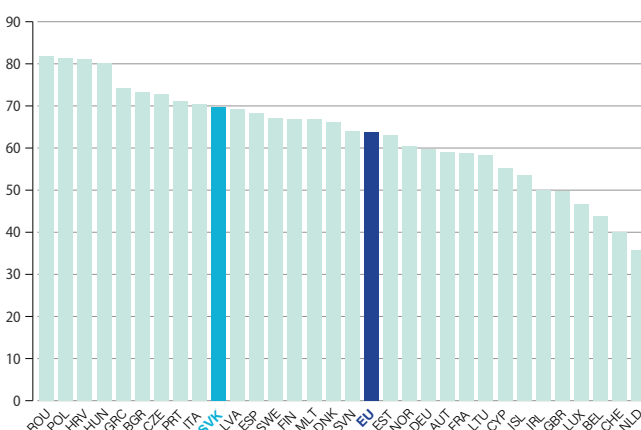
### Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



### Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	12.3	2021	●	↑
Severely materially deprived people (%)	5.9	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	1.3	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	19.7	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.41	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	48.7	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	63.3	2019	●	↓
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	14.8	2019	●	↓
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	74.8	2021	●	↓
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	2.2	2020	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	65.3	2020	●	→
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	26.6	2020	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	3.9	2020	●	↓
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	3.2	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	394.6	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	7.0	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	30	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	5.8	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	4.5	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	95	2021	●	↑
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	1.4	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	25	2020	●	→
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	94.6	2020	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	18.7	2020	●	→
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.4	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	15	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	78.1	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	7.8	2021	●	→
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	469.4	2018	●	↑
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	29.3	2018	●	↑
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	18.5	2018	●	↓
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	39.5	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	4.8	2021	●	↑

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	15.8	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	8.5	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	19.3	2021	●	↑
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	21.3	2021	●	→
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	27.7	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	14.9	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.7	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	68.8	2020	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	0.4	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	2602.6	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	99.2	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	81.9	2020	●	↓

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	5.7	2020	●	→
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	17.3	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.1	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.73	2020	●	●
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	15152	2020	●	→
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	14.2	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	6.7	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	1.5	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	5.2	2020	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.3	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	96.3	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	0.9	2020	●	↓
R&D personnel (% of active population)	0.8	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	7.7	2021	●	↓
Households with broadband access (%)	90	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	6	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	55	2021	●	↑
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.0	2018	●	→
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	24.8	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	1.7	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	20.9	2020	●	↑
Palma ratio	0.71	2019	●	↑

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	1.3	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	47.8	2020	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	42.2	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	4.9	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	3.2	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	13.8	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	6.4	2020	●	→
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	NA	NA	●	●
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	14.1	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	6.2	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	13.4	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	9.8	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	7.4	2021	●	↓

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	5.6	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	2.5	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	90.0	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	50.0	2021	●	→
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.1	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	85.8	2021	●	↑
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	86.3	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	2.1	2019	●	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	12.6	2019	●	↑
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.95	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	1.4	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.6	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	4.3	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	3.3	2020	●	→
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.60	2020	●	●
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.56	2020	●	●
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.68	2020	●	●
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	52	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	15.5	2019	●	→
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.18	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	78.4	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.13	2021	●	→
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	1.1	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	55	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	85.6	2019	●	→



## ▼ Overall Performance

Index score

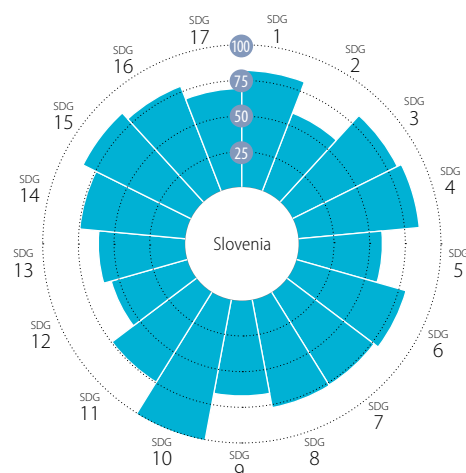


Index Rank

Slovenia

8

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↗ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

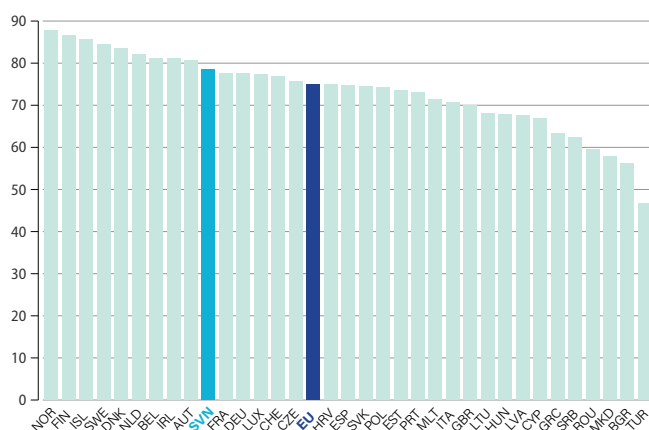
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

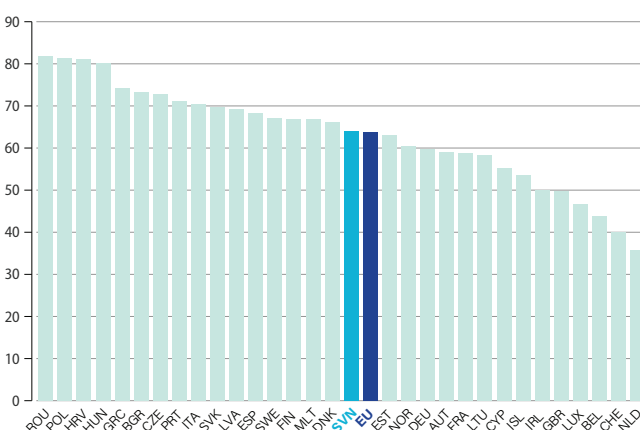
## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	11.7	2021	●	↑
Severely materially deprived people (%)	3.0	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.2	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	19.9	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.41	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	57.5	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	43.2	2019	●	↑
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	34.5	2019	●	→
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	80.9	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	2.3	2020	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	69.1	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	24.0	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	2.2	2021	●	→
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	4.1	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	245.3	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	18.2	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	19	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2.2	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	3.8	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	86	2021	●	↓
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	4.5	2019	●	↓
Smoking prevalence (%)	27	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2020	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	12.4	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.8	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	25	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	92.6	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	3.1	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	503.8	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	14.6	2018	●	↑
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	13.0	2018	●	→
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	47.9	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	18.9	2021	●	↑

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	3.1	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	6.7	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	20.3	2021	●	↓
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	22.1	2021	●	↓
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	19.4	2021	●	↓
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	16.6	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.1	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	69.3	2020	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	0.7	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	5416.0	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	98.3	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	71.5	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	1.7	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	25.0	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	0.8	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.75	2020	●	↑
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	19725	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	7.3	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	5.0	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	1.6	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	5.0	2021	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.3	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	105.2	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	2.2	2020	●	→
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.6	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	55.0	2021	●	↓
Households with broadband access (%)	93	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	4	2021	●	→
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	50	2021	●	↓
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.3	2018	●	→
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	26.4	2022	●	↓
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	3.7	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	23.0	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	0.83	2019	●	↑

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	5.2	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	20.0	2021	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	59.3	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	20.8	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	4.1	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	15.3	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	12.3	2020	●	→
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	1.6	2019	●	→
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	11.6	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	8.0	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	10.3	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	9.9	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	63.7	2021	●	↓

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	6.0	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	2.8	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	18.6	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	83.0	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	41.8	2018	●	↓
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	4.1	2018	●	↑
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.1	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	62.4	2021	●	→

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	73.7	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	84.0	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	0.8	2019	●	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	16.2	2019	●	↑
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.93	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	2.2	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.4	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	7.3	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.3	2020	●	→
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.68	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.64	2020	●	↑
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.65	2020	●	↑
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	57	2021	●	↓
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	23.8	2019	●	→
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.00	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	68.5	2022	●	↓

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.19	2021	●	→
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	0.5	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	52	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	88.9	2019	●	→



## Overall Performance

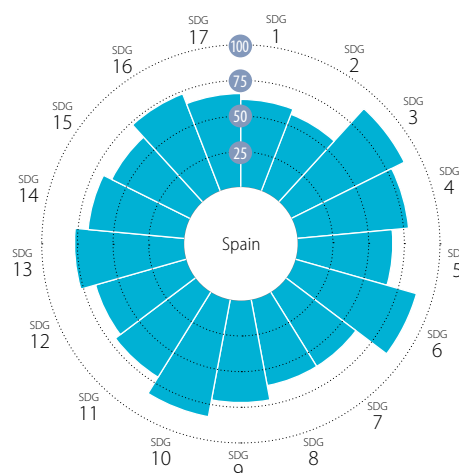
Index score



Index Rank

**Spain**  
**22**

## Performance by SDG



## SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 ↗ Moderately improving
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

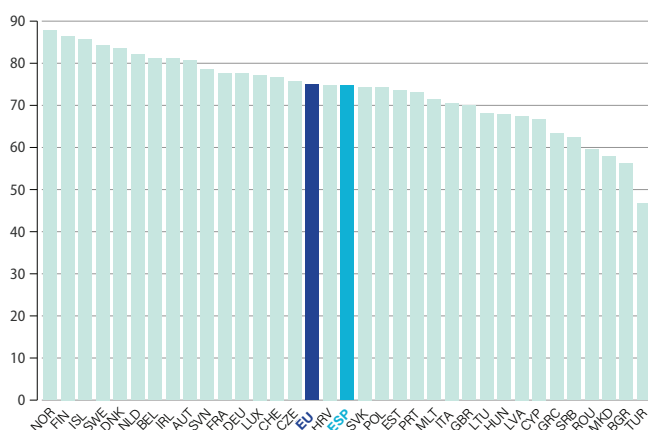
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

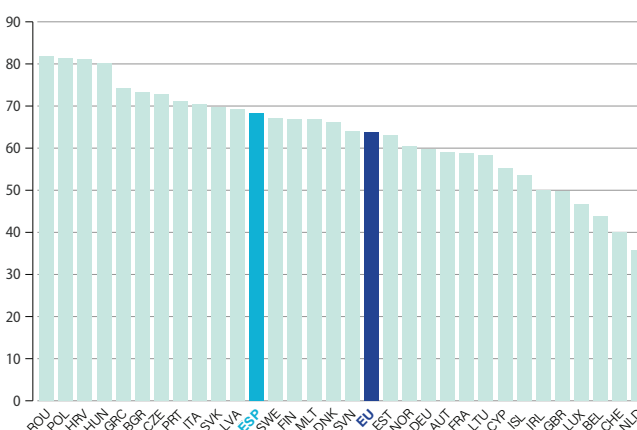
## Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



**SDG1 – No Poverty**

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	21.7	2021	●	→
Severely materially deprived people (%)	7.0	2020	●	→
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	2.1	2022	●	→

**SDG2 – Zero Hunger**

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	16.0	2019	●	→
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.43	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	45.7	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	49.3	2017	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	18.4	2019	●	→
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	110.9	2019	●	●

**SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being**

Life expectancy at birth (years)	83.3	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	4.6	2020	●	↓
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	71.2	2021	●	→
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	14.9	2021	●	→
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	0.3	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	7.3	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	172.5	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	7.4	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	10	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	3.2	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	2.9	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	92	2021	●	→
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	1.6	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	24	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2021	●	→
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	19.6	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.5	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	40	2020	●	↑

**SDG4 – Quality Education**

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	97.2	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	13.3	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	482.3	2018	●	↓
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	21.3	2018	●	↓
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	10.0	2018	●	↑
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	48.7	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	14.4	2021	●	↑

**SDG5 – Gender Equality**

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	9.4	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	10.6	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	25.6	2021	●	→
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	41.1	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	32.6	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	19.4	2021	●	→

**SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation**

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.2	2020	●	→
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	86.6	2018	●	●
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	23.7	2017	●	↓
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	2384.5	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	99.6	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	95.7	2020	●	↑

**SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy**

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	14.2	2021	●	↓
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	21.2	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	0.9	2019	●	↑

**SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth**

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.75	2020	●	↑
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	19183	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	14.1	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	15.5	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	1.8	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	12.7	2021	●	→

**SDG8 – (continued)**

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.2	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	54.3	2018	●	●

**SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.4	2020	●	→
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.0	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	41.2	2021	●	→
Households with broadband access (%)	96	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	3	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	64	2021	●	↑
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.8	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	55.8	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	2.4	2021	●	↑

**SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities**

Gini Coefficient	33.0	2021	●	→
Palma ratio	1.19	2019	●	↑

**SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities**

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	3.9	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	13.8	2021	●	→
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	36.4	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	19.7	2020	●	↓
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	9.9	2021	●	→
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	11.8	2019	●	↑

**SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production**

Circular material use rate (%)	11.2	2020	●	→
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2.5	2020	●	→
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	10.1	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	5.0	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	15.2	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	9.8	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	3.9	2021	●	↑

**SDG13 – Climate Action**

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	4.5	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	1.6	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	105.1	2021	●	●

**SDG14 – Life Below Water**

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	89.7	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	32.1	2018	●	→
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	42.8	2018	●	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	10.8	2018	●	↑
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.6	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	85.9	2021	●	→

**SDG15 – Life on Land**

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	57.6	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	51.4	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	3.5	2019	●	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.85	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	3.6	2018	●	●

**SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.6	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	14.1	2020	●	↓
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	3.6	2020	●	↓
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.73	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.57	2020	●	↓
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.73	2020	●	↑
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	61	2021	●	↑
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	16.2	2019	●	→
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	1.45	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	76.7	2022	●	→

**SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals**

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.25	2021	●	→
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	23.1	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	65	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	88.9	2019	●	→

### Overall Performance

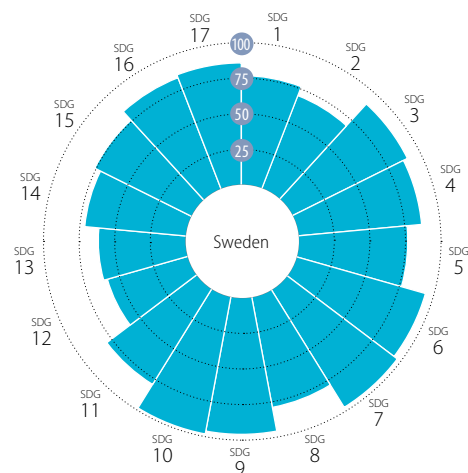
Index score



Index Rank

**Sweden**  
**2**

### Performance by SDG



### SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↗ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

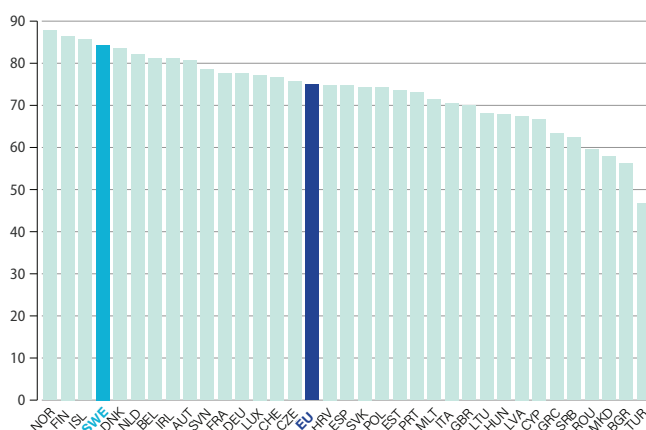
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

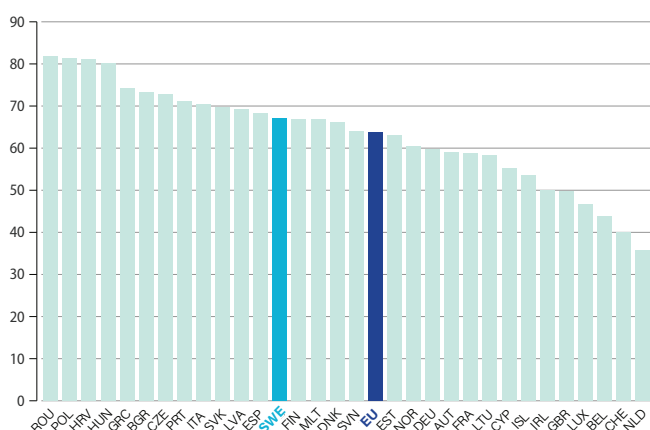
### Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



### Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	15.7	2021	●	↑
Severely materially deprived people (%)	1.8	2020	●	→
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	1.0	2022	●	→

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	15.3	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.54	2019	●	→
Yield gap closure (%)	68.0	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	26.1	2019	●	↑
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	15.0	2019	●	↑
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	83.2	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	1.3	2020	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	72.4	2021	●	→
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	19.1	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	1.1	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	3.6	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	170.2	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	12.8	2019	●	→
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	8	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2.6	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	2.0	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	97	2021	●	→
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	3.8	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	7	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2020	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	13.4	2021	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	7.4	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	28	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	95.9	2020	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	8.4	2021	●	→
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	502.5	2018	●	↑
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	19.0	2018	●	↑
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	12.7	2018	●	↓
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	49.3	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	34.7	2021	●	↑

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	11.2	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	5.3	2021	●	→
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	13.2	2021	●	→
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	47.6	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	37.9	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	21.9	2021	●	↑

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	96.0	2019	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	0.7	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m³/capita)	2676.0	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	99.8	2020	●	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	94.9	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	1.7	2021	●	→
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	60.1	2020	●	↑
CO₂ emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO₂/TWh)	0.2	2019	●	→

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.76	2020	●	→
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	25718	2021	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	6.0	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	8.3	2020	●	↓
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	0.7	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	6.6	2021	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.3	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	87.8	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	3.5	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.8	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	477.3	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	93	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	0	2021	●	↑
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	67	2021	●	→
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	4.2	2018	●	↑
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	64.7	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	4.5	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	26.8	2021	●	↑
Palma ratio	0.98	2020	●	↑

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	0.3	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	42.6	2021	●	↓
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	38.3	2020	●	↓
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	7.1	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	8.5	2021	●	→
Exposure to air pollution: PM2.5 in urban areas (µg/m³)	5.8	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	7.1	2020	●	→
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	3.5	2019	●	↑
Production-based SO₂ emissions (kg/capita)	15.7	2018	●	●
Imported SO₂ emissions (kg/capita)	7.7	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	12.7	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	11.8	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	9.5	2021	●	→

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO₂/capita)	3.8	2020	●	↑
CO₂ emissions embodied in imports (tCO₂/capita)	3.3	2018	●	→
CO₂ emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	67.5	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	75.5	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	39.2	2018	●	↓
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	22.8	2018	●	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	6.7	2018	●	↑
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.1	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	60.2	2021	●	→

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	59.1	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	59.4	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O₂/litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO₃/litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.99	2022	●	↑
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	1.6	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	1.0	2019	●	→
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	13.8	2020	●	↓
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.3	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.77	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.83	2020	●	→
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.87	2020	●	→
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	85	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	28.1	2019	●	→
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	2.10	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	88.8	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.91	2021	●	→
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	13.7	2018	●	↑
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	61	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	88.5	2019	●	→

## Overall Performance

Index score

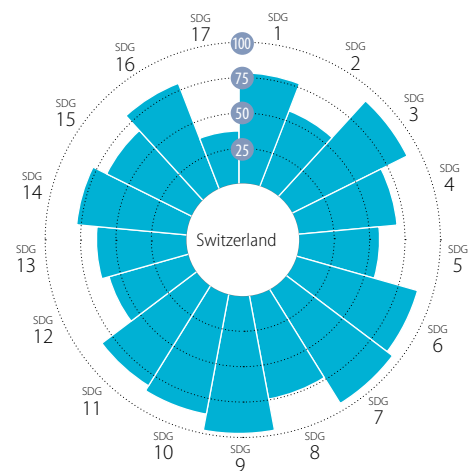


Index Rank

Switzerland

9

## Performance by SDG



## SDG Dashboards and Trends



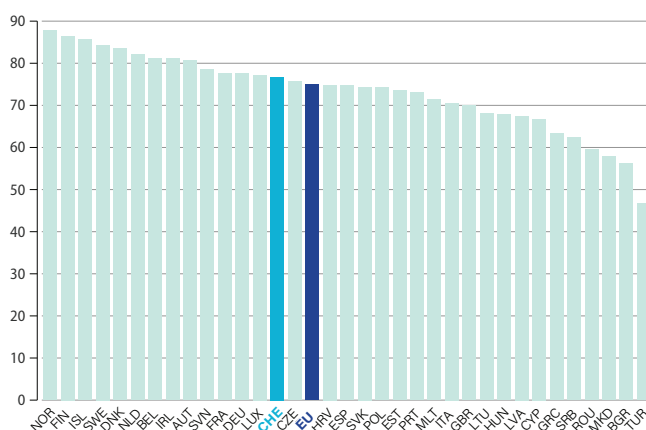
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

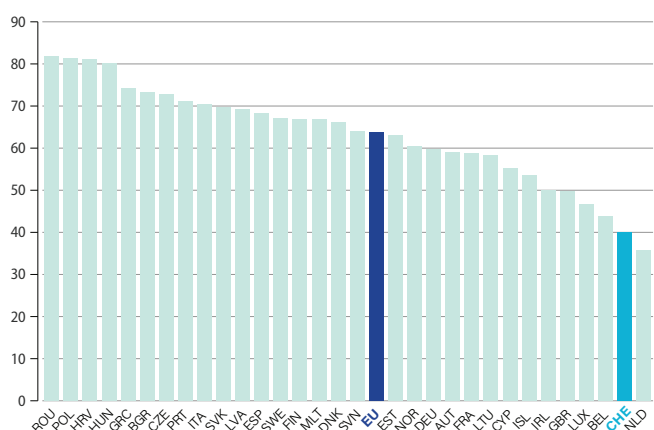
## Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)





## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	15.5	2020	●	↗
Severely materially deprived people (%)	1.3	2020	●	↑
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.3	2022	●	→

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	* 19.5	2016	●	●
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.48	2019	●	→
Yield gap closure (%)	64.2	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	59.4	2019	●	↑
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	32.6	2019	●	→
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	84.0	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	1.0	2020	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	83.3	2020	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	17.3	2020	●	↑
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	0.6	2020	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	4.7	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	153.4	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	11.8	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	11	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	4.0	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	2.6	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	95	2021	●	↑
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Smoking prevalence (%)	NA	NA	●	●
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2020	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	22.0	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	7.3	2021	●	→
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	49.7	2020	●	→
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	4.9	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	498.2	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	20.2	2018	●	↓
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	16.3	2018	●	↓
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	52.3	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	22.7	2021	●	→

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	18.4	2020	●	↓
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	7.9	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	24.4	2021	●	↑
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	16.3	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	98.0	2013	●	●
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	1.9	2017	●	→
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	4868.1	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	94.2	2020	●	→
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	99.7	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	0.2	2020	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	NA	NA	●	●
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	0.5	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	29977	2020	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	6.3	2020	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	4.8	2020	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	1.4	2019	●	→
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	8.0	2020	●	↑

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.5	2018	●	→
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	165.0	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	3.2	2019	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.8	2019	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	973.7	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	99	2021	●	→
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	1	2021	●	→
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	78	2021	●	●
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	4.0	2018	●	→
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	76.0	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	6.0	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	31.2	2020	●	↓
Palma ratio	1.21	2019	●	↓

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	1.2	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	13.5	2020	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	52.8	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	11.4	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	13.6	2021	●	↓
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	9.2	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	3.3	2020	●	↓
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	17.9	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	11.7	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	6.7	2015	●	→
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	21.9	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	10.5	2021	●	↗

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	3.7	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	4.4	2018	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	0.0	2021	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	82.5	2021	●	↑
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.5	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	37.0	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	60.2	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	2019	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	14.3	2019	●	↑
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.97	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	5.8	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.4	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	7.2	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	NA	NA	●	●
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	84	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	44.2	2019	●	↓
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	2.20	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	82.7	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.51	2021	●	↑
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	-102.3	2018	●	↓
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	89	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	87.0	2019	●	→

\* Imputed data point

## ▼ Overall Performance

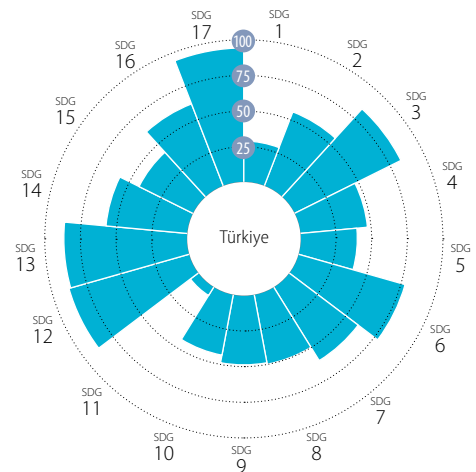
Index score



Index Rank

Türkiye  
**34**

## ▼ Performance by SDG



## ▼ SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↗ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

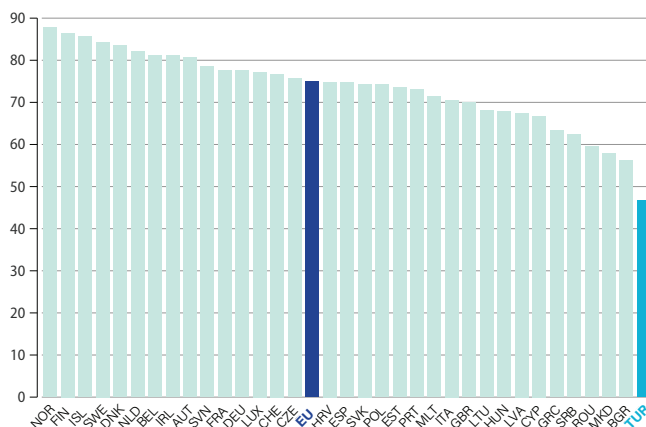
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

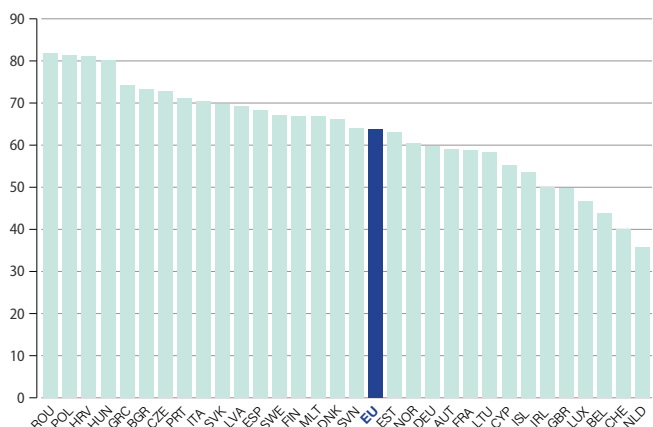
## ▼ Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## ▼ Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)





## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	23.0	2020	●	↓
Severely materially deprived people (%)	27.4	2020	●	→
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	7.9	2022	●	↑

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	22.3	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.27	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	19.1	2019	●	→
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	79.1	2019	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	2.9	2019	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	68.8	2020	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	8.5	2020	●	↑
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	4.9	2020	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	15.0	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	285.0	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	4.4	2019	●	→
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	46	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	9.5	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	6.6	2019	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	95	2021	●	→
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	0.4	2019	●	↑
Smoking prevalence (%)	NA	NA	●	●
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	98.5	2020	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	16.4	2020	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	4.4	2021	●	↓
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	27	2020	●	↑

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	42.2	2020	●	→
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	26.7	2020	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	462.5	2018	●	↑
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	25.2	2018	●	↑
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	11.0	2018	●	↓
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	36.2	2020	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	5.8	2020	●	→

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	-1.3	2014	●	●
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	38.1	2020	●	→
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	38.2	2020	●	↑
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	17.3	2021	●	→
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	18.0	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	16.8	2020	●	↑

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.9	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	61.1	2020	●	↑
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	23.3	2017	●	↓
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	974.3	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	78.4	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	20.3	2020	●	↓
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	NA	NA	●	●
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.3	2019	●	→

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.44	2020	●	→
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	NA	NA	●	●
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	32.0	2020	●	↓
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	13.2	2020	●	↓
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	NA	NA	●	●
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	12.9	2020	●	→

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.0	2018	●	↑
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	20.1	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.1	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	0.7	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	8.8	2021	●	→
Households with broadband access (%)	92	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.2	2018	●	→
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	40.5	2022	●	→
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	0.7	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	43.4	2020	●	↓
Palma ratio	2.01	2019	●	↓

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	64.0	2020	●	↑
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	11.5	2019	●	→
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	34.7	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	NA	NA	●	●
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	15.1	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	1.7	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	14.5	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	2.9	2015	●	→
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	0.2	2021	●	↑

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	4.7	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	0.6	2018	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	1.0	2020	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	57.5	2018	●	→
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	25.5	2018	●	→
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	5.5	2018	●	↑
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.0	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	3.8	2021	●	→

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	2.3	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	4.2	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.88	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.7	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

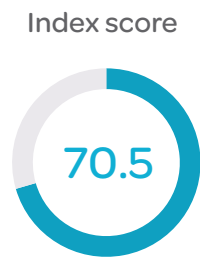
Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	1.0	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	9.8	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.56	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.41	2020	●	↓
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.28	2020	●	↓
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	38	2021	●	↓
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	15.9	2019	●	→
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.29	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	41.3	2022	●	↓

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.95	2021	●	→	
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	5.0	2018	●	↑	
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	*	0	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	84.6	2019	●	↑	

\* Imputed data point

### Overall Performance

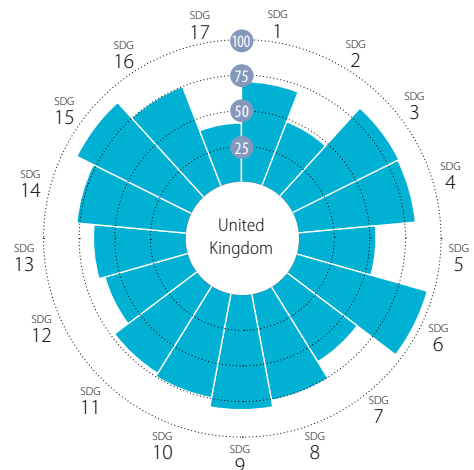


Index Rank

**United Kingdom**

**20**

### Performance by SDG



### SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable

→ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 → Moderately improving
 → On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

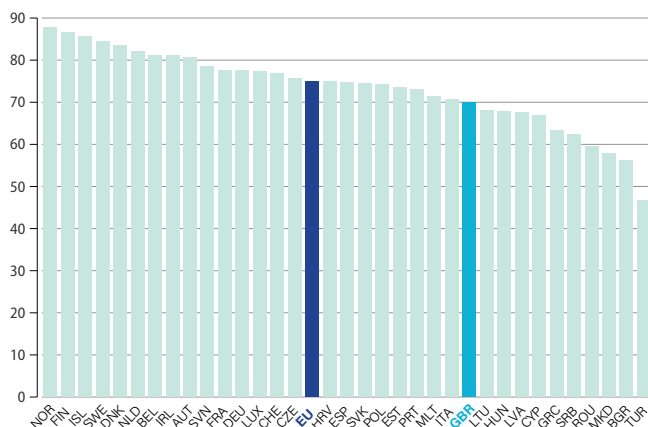
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

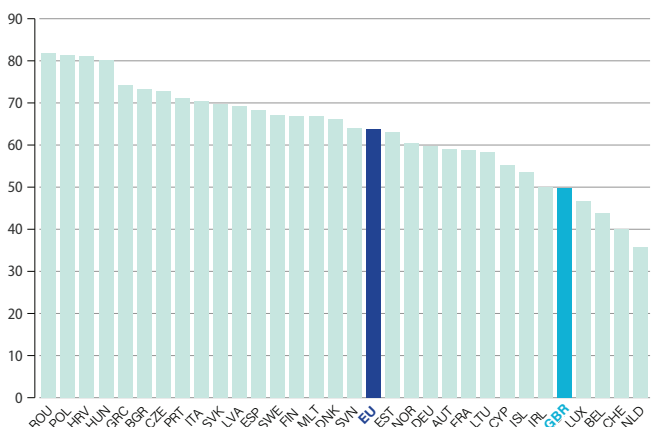
### Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



### Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



**SDG1 – No Poverty**

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	18.6	2018	●	●
Severely materially deprived people (%)	4.6	2018	●	●
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.6	2022	●	→

**SDG2 – Zero Hunger**

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	21.0	2017	●	●
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.42	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	67.8	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	86.1	2017	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	12.5	2019	●	↑
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	537.3	2019	●	●

**SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being**

Life expectancy at birth (years)	81.3	2018	●	●
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	6.8	2018	●	●
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	73.2	2018	●	●
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	21.9	2018	●	●
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	1.6	2018	●	●
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	6.9	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	237.8	2018	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	8.3	2018	●	→
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	13	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	4.2	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	2.8	2018	●	●
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	91	2021	●	→
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	9.7	2014	●	●
Smoking prevalence (%)	12	2020	●	↑
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2020	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	12.3	2021	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.9	2021	●	↑
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	21	2020	●	↑

**SDG4 – Quality Education**

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	100.0	2019	●	↑
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	10.9	2019	●	→
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	503.5	2018	●	↑
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	17.4	2018	●	↑
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	10.7	2018	●	↓
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	49.4	2019	●	●
Adult participation in learning (%)	14.8	2019	●	●

**SDG5 – Gender Equality**

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	19.8	2018	●	●
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	NA	NA	●	●
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	29.1	2019	●	●
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	31.1	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	37.8	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	17.1	2019	●	●

**SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation**

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.1	2018	●	●
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	100.0	2014	●	●
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	0.7	2017	●	↑
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	2688.5	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	99.8	2020	●	→
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	98.1	2020	●	↑

**SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy**

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	5.4	2018	●	●
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	12.3	2019	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.1	2019	●	↑

**SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth**

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.66	2020	●	↓
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	24508	2019	●	●
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	11.4	2019	●	●
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	3.8	2019	●	↑
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	0.8	2018	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	10.3	2018	●	●

**SDG8 – (continued)**

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.3	2018	●	→
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	83.5	2018	●	●

**SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.8	2019	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.5	2019	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	91.7	2019	●	●
Households with broadband access (%)	97	2020	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	4	2020	●	→
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	74	2019	●	●
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	4.0	2018	●	→
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	93.2	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	3.2	2021	●	↑

**SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities**

Gini Coefficient	33.5	2018	●	●
Palma ratio	1.47	2020	●	→

**SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities**

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	7.1	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	9.8	2018	●	●
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	44.1	2018	●	●
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	17.6	2018	●	●
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	15.1	2018	●	●
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	10.2	2019	●	↓

**SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production**

Circular material use rate (%)	16.4	2019	●	↑
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2.0	2018	●	●
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	8.1	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	7.9	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	12.4	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	13.3	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	9.8	2021	●	→

**SDG13 – Climate Action**

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	4.9	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	2.6	2018	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	1425.2	2021	●	●

**SDG14 – Life Below Water**

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	66.2	2019	●	●
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	24.8	2018	●	↑
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	23.7	2018	●	↓
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	4.2	2018	●	↑
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.2	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	85.3	2021	●	→

**SDG15 – Life on Land**

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	86.4	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	91.2	2021	●	↑
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	1.3	2019	●	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	5.0	2012	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.96	2022	●	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	3.2	2018	●	●

**SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.1	2018	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	24.2	2018	●	●
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	1.9	2018	●	●
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.51	2020	●	↓
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.74	2020	●	↑
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.81	2020	●	→
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	78	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	9.0	2018	●	↑
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	1.17	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	78.7	2022	●	→

**SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals**

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.50	2021	●	↓
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	-41.2	2018	●	●
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	100	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	83.2	2019	●	↑

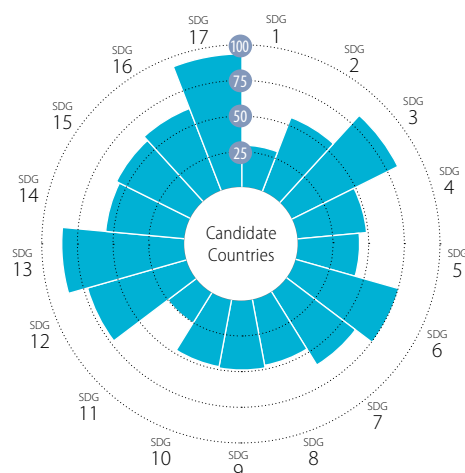
# CANDIDATE COUNTRIES

## Overall Performance



Index Rank  
**Candidate Countries**  
**NA**

## Performance by SDG



## SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges   
 ■ Significant challenges   
 ■ Challenges remain   
 ■ SDG achieved   
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing   
 → Stagnating   
 ↗ Moderately improving   
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement   
 ● Information unavailable

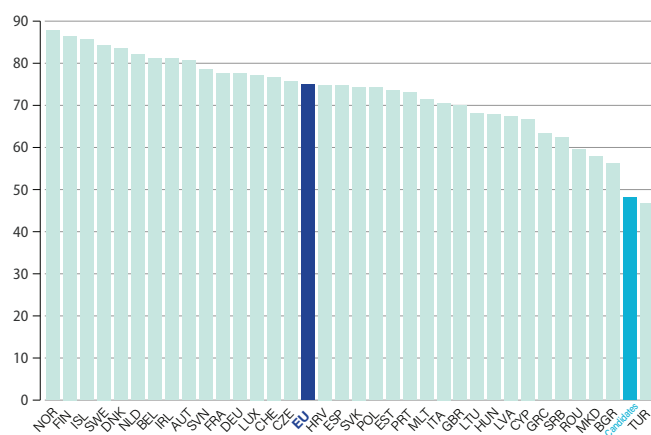
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

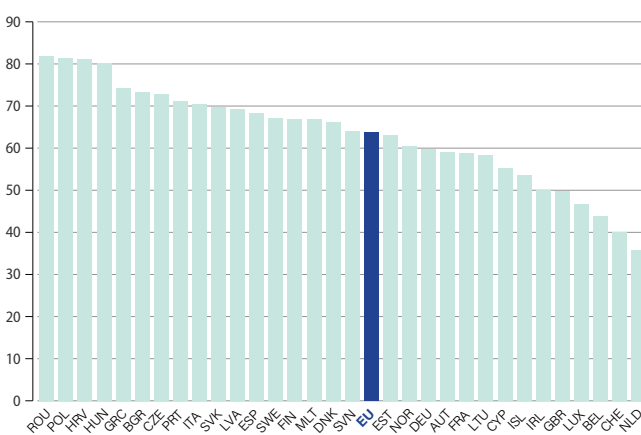
## Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	22.8	2021	●	→
Severely materially deprived people (%)	26.5	2020	●	→
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	8.2	2022	●	→

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	21.7	2019	●	●
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.28	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	NA	NA	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	19.1	2019	●	●
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	78.6	2021	●	→
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	2.8	2020	●	●
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	69.0	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	9.3	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	5.2	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	14.8	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	294.2	2019	●	●
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	5.1	2019	●	●
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	51	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	9.1	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	6.6	2020	●	●
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	92	2021	●	→
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	0.5	2019	●	●
Smoking prevalence (%)	NA	NA	●	●
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	98.5	2021	●	●
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	19.5	2021	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	4.6	2021	●	↓
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	25	2020	●	●

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	44.0	2020	●	→
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	24.5	2021	●	↑
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	458.1	2018	●	↑
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	27.5	2018	●	↑
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	10.7	2018	●	●
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	36.1	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	5.6	2021	●	→

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	0.0	2020	●	●
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	35.7	2021	●	→
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	37.4	2021	●	↑
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	20.1	2021	●	→
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	18.5	2021	●	→
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	17.5	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	1.0	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	56.5	2020	●	→
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	22.3	2017	●	→
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	1104.7	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	74.9	2020	●	↓
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	71.4	2020	●	→

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	20.0	2021	●	↓
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	30.0	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.3	2019	●	→

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.46	2020	●	→
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	10443	2021	●	●
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	30.8	2021	●	↓
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	13.0	2020	●	↓
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	NA	NA	●	●
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	12.4	2021	●	→

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.1	2018	●	↑
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	21.1	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.1	2020	●	→
R&D personnel (% of active population)	0.7	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	7.9	2021	●	→
Households with broadband access (%)	91	2021	●	↑
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	5	2021	●	●
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	37	2021	●	●
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.1	2018	●	→
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	37.4	2022	●	●
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	0.8	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	42.0	2021	●	↓
Palma ratio	1.93	2020	●	●

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	23.5	2018	●	●
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	63.6	2021	●	→
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	11.7	2020	●	●
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	32.0	2020	●	→
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	12.8	2021	●	↑
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	NA	NA	●	●

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	0.9	2020	●	●
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	14.2	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	1.7	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	14.3	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	3.3	2015	●	→
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	0.3	2021	●	↑

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	4.6	2020	●	→
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	0.6	2018	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	3.0	2021	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	68.1	2021	●	●
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	57.5	2018	●	●
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	27.5	2018	●	→
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	6.2	2018	●	↑
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.1	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	6.0	2021	●	↓

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	6.3	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	10.7	2021	●	↓
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	3.3	2019	●	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	7.6	2019	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.89	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.9	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	1.1	2019	●	●
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	9.4	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.56	2020	●	↑
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.41	2020	●	↓
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.30	2020	●	↓
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	38	2021	●	↓
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	16.8	2019	●	→
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	0.27	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	44.0	2022	●	↓

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.95	2021	●	●
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	0.0	2018	●	●
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	0	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	83.3	2019	●	↑



# EFTA COUNTRIES

## Overall Performance

Index score

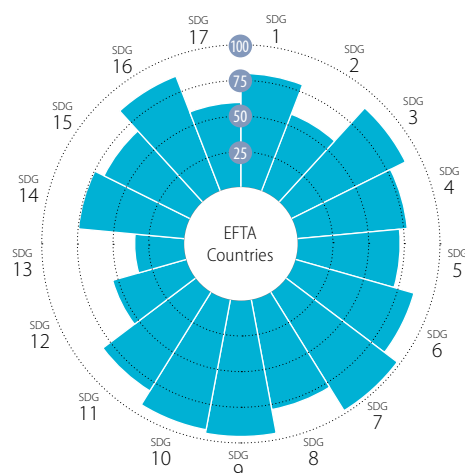


Index Rank

EFTA Countries

NA

## Performance by SDG



## SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges ■ Significant challenges ■ Challenges remain ■ SDG achieved ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing → Stagnating ↗ Moderately improving ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement ● Information unavailable

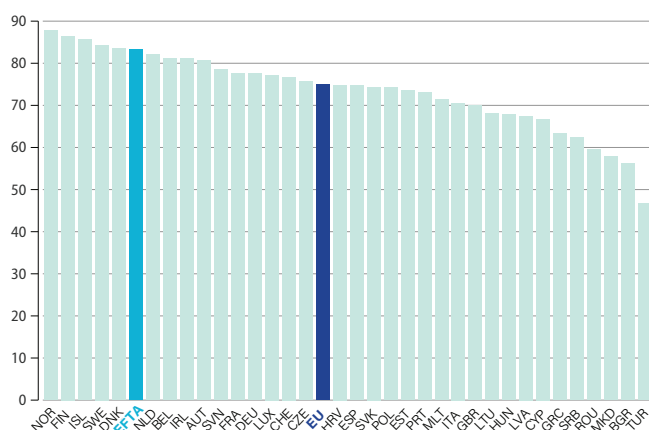
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

## Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## SDG1 – No Poverty

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	14.3	2021	●	→
Severely materially deprived people (%)	1.5	2020	●	→
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	0.3	2022	●	→

## SDG2 – Zero Hunger

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	17.6	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.49	2019	●	→
Yield gap closure (%)	61.4	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	72.9	2019	●	●
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	29.6	2019	●	→
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	0.0	2019	●	●

## SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Life expectancy at birth (years)	83.7	2021	●	↑
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	1.1	2020	●	↑
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	79.9	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	17.6	2021	●	↑
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	0.8	2021	●	↑
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	4.1	2020	●	↑
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	160.6	2019	●	↑
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	12.1	2019	●	↑
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	10	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	3.3	2020	●	↑
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	2.2	2020	●	↑
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	96	2021	●	↑
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	10.4	2019	●	↓
Smoking prevalence (%)	NA	NA	●	●
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	100.0	2021	●	↑
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	18.7	2021	●	↑
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	7.3	2021	●	→
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	33	2020	●	●

## SDG4 – Quality Education

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	68.5	2020	●	→
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	7.9	2021	●	→
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	497.3	2018	●	→
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	20.5	2018	●	↓
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	13.3	2018	●	↓
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	53.1	2021	●	↑
Adult participation in learning (%)	21.6	2021	●	→

## SDG5 – Gender Equality

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	16.4	2020	●	↑
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	6.7	2021	●	↑
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	17.8	2021	●	↑
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	45.1	2021	●	↑
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	41.9	2021	●	↑
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	17.5	2021	●	→

## SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	0.0	2020	●	↑
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	84.3	2020	●	●
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	1.2	2017	●	→
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	4896.7	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	96.0	2020	●	→
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	86.5	2020	●	↑

## SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	0.4	2021	●	↑
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	77.8	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	0.4	2019	●	↑

## SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.88	2020	●	●
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	29733	2021	●	↑
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	6.7	2021	●	↑
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	4.7	2020	●	→
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	1.2	2019	●	↑
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	7.2	2021	●	→

## SDG8 – (continued)

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.5	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	170.4	2018	●	●

## SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	2.8	2020	●	↑
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.8	2020	●	↑
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	665.9	2021	●	↑
Households with broadband access (%)	99	2021	●	→
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	1	2021	●	→
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	78	2021	●	●
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.9	2018	●	→
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	66.2	2022	●	↑
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	5.6	2021	●	↑

## SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities

Gini Coefficient	28.8	2021	●	→
Palma ratio	1.09	2020	●	↓

## SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	3.2	2018	●	↑
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	17.8	2021	●	→
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	48.5	2020	●	↑
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	9.7	2020	●	↑
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	11.9	2021	●	↓
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	8.1	2019	●	↑

## SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Circular material use rate (%)	NA	NA	●	●
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	3.3	2020	●	●
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	18.9	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	11.6	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	9.7	2015	●	→
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	19.9	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	11.4	2021	●	→

## SDG13 – Climate Action

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	5.3	2020	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	5.0	2018	●	↑
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	31066.5	2021	●	●

## SDG14 – Life Below Water

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	82.5	2021	●	●
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	18.9	2018	●	↑
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	33.1	2018	●	→
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	0.5	2018	●	→
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.5	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	52.6	2021	●	→

## SDG15 – Life on Land

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	44.0	2021	●	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	61.0	2021	●	→
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	NA	NA	●	●
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	14.3	2019	●	●
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.96	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	4.9	2018	●	●

## SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.4	2019	●	↑
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	5.9	2020	●	↑
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	0.9	2020	●	↑
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.72	2020	●	●
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.80	2020	●	●
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.94	2020	●	●
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	84	2021	●	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	35.6	2019	●	↓
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	1.82	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	86.4	2022	●	→

## SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.66	2021	●	↑
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	-61.5	2018	●	↓
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	54	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	87.9	2019	●	→



# EUROPEAN UNION

## Overall Performance

Index score

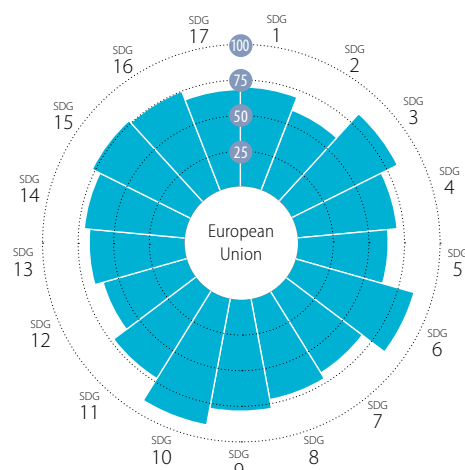


Index Rank

European Union

NA

## Performance by SDG



## SDG Dashboards and Trends



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable  
↓ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 ↗ Moderately improving
 ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

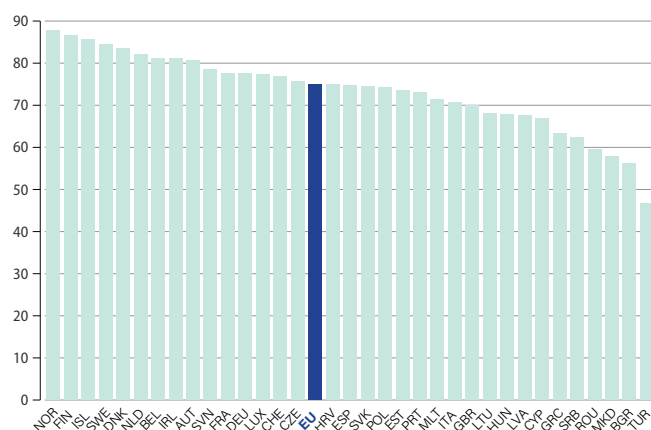
Notes: The full title of Goal 2 "Zero Hunger" is "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

The full title of each SDG is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Detailed results and methodology available online at <https://www.sdgindex.org/EU>

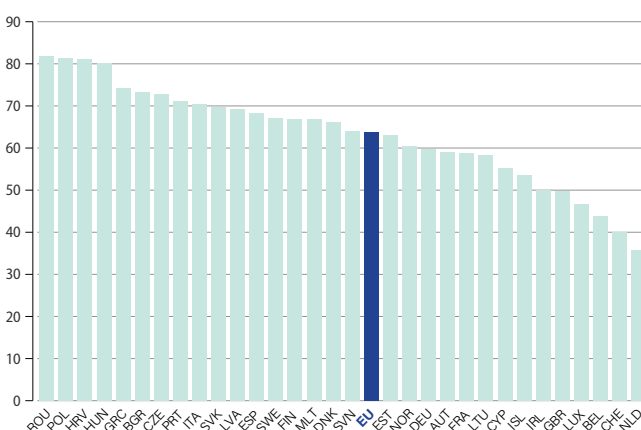
## Leave No One Behind Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



## Spillover Index

100 (best) to 0 (worst)



**SDG1 – No Poverty**

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
People at risk of income poverty after social transfers (%)	16.8	2021	●	↗
Severely materially deprived people (%)	5.9	2020	●	↗
Poverty headcount ratio at \$5.50/day (%)	1.3	2022	●	↗

**SDG2 – Zero Hunger**

Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	16.4	2019	●	↓
Human Trophic Level (best 2–3 worst)	2.43	2019	●	↓
Yield gap closure (%)	62.6	2018	●	●
Gross nitrogen balance on agricultural land (kg/hectare)	54.4	2019	●	↗
Ammonia emissions from agriculture (kg/hectare)	23.3	2019	●	↗
Exports of pesticides banned in the EU (kg per 1,000 population)	113.0	2019	●	●

**SDG3 – Good Health and Well-Being**

Life expectancy at birth (years)	80.4	2021	●	↗
Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	3.0	2020	●	↗
Population with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over)	68.3	2021	●	↗
Gap in self-reported health, by income (p.p.)	21.3	2021	●	↓
Gap in self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care, by income (p.p.)	2.2	2021	●	↗
New reported cases of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	9.7	2020	●	↗
Standardised preventable and treatable mortality (per 100,000 persons aged less than 75)	244.1	2019	●	↗
Suicide rate (per 100,000 population)	10.1	2019	●	↗
Age-standardised death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	20	2019	●	●
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	3.9	2020	●	↗
People killed in road accidents (per 100,000 population)	4.2	2020	●	↗
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	91	2021	●	↗
Population engaging in heavy, episodic drinking at least once a week (%)	3.7	2019	●	↗
Smoking prevalence (%)	24	2020	●	↗
People covered by health insurance for a core set of services (%)	99.1	2021	●	↗
Share of total health spending financed by out-of-pocket payments (%)	16.6	2021	●	↗
Subjective Wellbeing (average ladder score, worst 0–10 best)	6.6	2021	●	↗
Individuals that use the internet to make appointments with a practitioner (%)	21	2020	●	↗

**SDG4 – Quality Education**

Participation in early childhood education (% of children between age of 3 and starting age of compulsory primary education)	92.9	2020	●	↗
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18 to 24)	9.7	2021	●	↗
PISA score (worst 0–600 best)	488.5	2018	●	↓
Underachievers in science (% of population aged 15)	22.2	2018	●	↓
Variation in science performance explained by students' socio-economic status (%)	14.6	2018	●	↗
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 25 to 34)	41.0	2021	●	↗
Adult participation in learning (%)	10.9	2021	●	↗

**SDG5 – Gender Equality**

Unadjusted gender pay gap (% of gross male earnings)	11.7	2020	●	↗
Gender employment gap (p.p.)	10.7	2021	●	↗
Population inactive due to caring responsibilities (% of population aged 20 to 64)	22.5	2021	●	↗
Seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	34.3	2021	●	↗
Positions held by women in senior management positions (%)	33.4	2021	●	↗
Proportion of ICT specialists that are women (%)	19.0	2021	●	↗

**SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation**

Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household (%)	1.5	2020	●	↗
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment (%)	80.6	2020	●	↗
Freshwater abstraction (% of long-term average available water)	9.7	2017	●	↗
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m <sup>3</sup> /capita)	3113.0	2018	●	●
Population using safely managed water services (%)	97.7	2020	●	↗
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	90.3	2020	●	↗

**SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy**

Population unable to keep home adequately warm (%)	6.9	2021	●	↗
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	21.5	2020	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion per electricity output (MtCO <sub>2</sub> /TWh)	1.1	2019	●	↗

**SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth**

Protection of fundamental labour rights (worst 0–1 best)	0.74	2020	●	↗
Gross disposable income (€/capita)	23420	2021	●	↗
Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) (% of population aged 15 to 29)	13.3	2021	●	↗
Unemployment Rate (% labour force)	7.2	2020	●	↗
People killed in accidents at work (per 100,000 workers)	1.8	2019	●	↗
In work at-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	8.9	2021	●	↗

**SDG8 – (continued)**

Fatal work-related accidents embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	0.2	2018	●	↓
Victims of modern slavery embodied in imports (per 100,000 population)	72.7	2018	●	●

**SDG9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	2.1	2020	●	↗
R&D personnel (% of active population)	1.4	2020	●	↗
Patent applications to the European Patent Office (per 1,000,000 population)	151.3	2021	●	↗
Households with broadband access (%)	92	2021	●	↗
Gap in internet access, urban vs rural areas (p.p.)	4	2021	●	↗
Population with at least basic digital skills (%)	54	2021	●	↗
Logistics performance index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	3.8	2018	●	↗
The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: Average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best)	55.6	2022	●	↗
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	2.3	2021	●	↗

**SDG10 – Reduced Inequalities**

Gini Coefficient	30.1	2021	●	↗
Palma ratio	1.12	2020	●	↗

**SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities**

Urban population without access to green urban areas in their neighbourhood (%)	5.7	2018	●	↗
Overcrowding rate among people living with below 60% of median equivalized income (%)	28.1	2021	●	↗
Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)	46.0	2020	●	↗
Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor (%)	14.5	2020	●	↗
Housing cost overburden rate (%)	8.3	2021	●	↗
Exposure to air pollution: PM <sub>2.5</sub> in urban areas (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	12.7	2019	●	↗

**SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production**

Circular material use rate (%)	14.2	2020	●	↗
Gross value added in environmental goods and services sector (% of GDP)	2.3	2020	●	↗
Production-based SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	12.3	2018	●	●
Imported SO <sub>2</sub> emissions (kg/capita)	6.0	2018	●	●
Production-based emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	16.0	2015	●	↓
Imported emissions of reactive nitrogen (kg/capita)	11.3	2015	●	↓
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	8.3	2021	●	↗

**SDG13 – Climate Action**

CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	5.8	2020	●	↗
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in imports (tCO <sub>2</sub> /capita)	2.3	2018	●	↓
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	123.6	2021	●	●

**SDG14 – Life Below Water**

Bathing sites of excellent quality (%)	80.9	2021	●	↗
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks (% of total catch)	36.7	2018	●	↗
Fish caught by bottom trawling or dredging (%)	28.3	2018	●	↓
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	10.1	2018	●	↓
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.3	2018	●	●
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	81.8	2021	●	↗

**SDG15 – Life on Land**

Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	77.9	2021	●	↗
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	78.5	2021	●	↗
Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers (mg O <sub>2</sub> /litre)	2.1	2019	●	↗
Nitrate in groundwater (mg NO <sub>3</sub> /litre)	22.2	2019	●	↗
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.91	2022	●	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	3.9	2018	●	●

**SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**

Death rate due to homicide (per 100,000 population)	0.6	2019	●	↗
Population reporting crime in their area (%)	10.5	2020	●	↗
Gap in population reporting crime in their area, by income (p.p.)	3.7	2020	●	↓
Access to justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.69	2020	●	↗
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0–1 best)	0.63	2020	●	↗
Constraints on government power (worst 0–1 best)	0.73	2020	●	↗
Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0–100 best)	66	2021	●	↗
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	20.8	2019	●	↗
Exports of major conventional weapons (TIV constant 1990 million USD per 100,000 population)	1.48	2021	●	●
Press Freedom Index (worst 0–100 best)	75.5	2022	●	↗

**SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals**

Official development assistance (% of GNI)	0.40	2021	●	↗
Shifted profits of multinationals (billion USD)	-7.4	2018	●	↗
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	61	2021	●	●
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	86.9	2019	●	↗



# EUROPE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2022

Achieving the SDGs: Europe's Compass in  
a Multipolar World

*Includes the SDG Index for the European Union,  
its member states, and partner countries*

December 2022

© Sustainable Development Solutions Network

